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Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan, with Palestinian Authority Civil Affairs Minister Jamil Tarifi looking over his shoulder, speaks to the press after meeting with members of the PA cabinet in Ramallah yesterday.

Farrakhan arrival catches government by surprise

By JAY BUSHINSKY and news agencies

Controversial US black leader Louis Farrakhan caught Israeli officialdom off guard when he showed up yesterday at the Allenby Bridge for a visit of both Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

He was, however, greeted by a PA representative upon his arrival.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry yesterday ruled out any meeting between the Nation of Islam leader and Israeli officials as long as he "adheres to vicious and hateful language against Israel, Judaism, and the Jewish people."

This stand was taken after prolonged consultations about Farrakhan's unexpected entry to the West Bank as a guest of the Palestinian Authority.

The entrance of Louis Farrakhan to Israel was not coordinated with the Israeli government,

a ministry statement said. However, he will be allowed to travel freely within the country on condition that "incitement is prevented and public order maintained."

Cabinet secretary Dan Naveh, in his capacity as chairman of the government forum which traces antisemitism, took a less diplomatic course and called on Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Interior Minister Eli Shalev to have Farrakhan expelled "at once," contending that this should be done "in a legal way."

See FARRAKHAN, Page 2

Cabinet unable to give PM pullback map for Albright

Mordechai, Sharon at loggerheads over scope of withdrawal

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will not be able to show a pullback map to US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in their planned meeting Thursday, nor will he be able to even give her a percentage figure concerning the scope of the prospective redeployment,

decision that would conform to American specifications might exacerbate the situation, and the Clinton administration should bide its time - until January, if necessary.

Indyk conceded to Netanyahu that Israel evidently needs time to work out the parameters of the projected troop pullback, indicating that this was understandable and acceptable to the US.

A senior Israeli official said Netanyahu "will be able to tell her which areas can be relinquished and which are vital to Israel's security."

PA wants joint anti-terror effort, Page 2

ment, government sources said yesterday.

The prospect of a second IDF withdrawal in the West Bank appeared to be tearing the government apart yesterday, as ministers divided at least four ways and the US evidently concluding that a quick and definitive decision is not in the cards.

Besides the divergent approaches to the territorial issue expressed by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, the National Religious Party's ministers insist that even the most minimal pullback must be contingent on strict fulfillment of the Palestinian Authority's commitment to root out terrorism.

Foreign Minister David Levy stressed the harm that would be caused to relations with the US and the European Union if a viable formula for troop redeployment and a concomitant handover of West Bank territory are not delineated and implemented.

US Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk evidently concluded that overt pressure for a cabinet

decision that would conform to American specifications might exacerbate the situation, and the Clinton administration should bide its time - until January, if necessary.

Indyk conceded to Netanyahu that Israel evidently needs time to work out the parameters of the projected troop pullback, indicating that this was understandable and acceptable to the US.

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Foreign Minister David Levy speaks with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at yesterday's cabinet meeting. (Brian Heller)

IDF. The other represents "national interests" and includes all settlements, as well as their needs, such as roads and water, government sources said. However, the percentages included in Mordechai's maps are being kept secret.

"We are in a reality of signed agreements and both sides need to make compromises," Mordechai told the cabinet.

In rebuttal, Sharon argued that the dimensions of the security zone delineated by Mordechai are "too narrow" and therefore would not provide the tactical maneuverability required for it to serve its defensive purpose.

His map would leave all the settlements and the mountain aquifer under Israeli jurisdiction.

Sharon maintained that the government must determine which areas should be designated as security zones and therefore cannot be surrendered, noting that this would be in line with the ministers' deci-

sion in principle of last week.

He said all existing settlements must be inside the projected security zones and that the PA must adhere to all the commitments it undertook with regard to security before the pullout can be implemented. This included the obligation to provide information about the fate of missing Israeli soldiers which, he said, the PA possesses but has withheld "for cynical reasons."

Sharon expanded the premise for his territorial formula by pointing out that it is impossible to predict what the situation in the West Bank will be 10 or 20 years from now.

"Security arrangements are meant to furnish answers to situations which could develop, such as a change in the relevant Arab states' governments, a change in the US attitude toward the regional dispute, or the future involvement of Russia in Middle Eastern affairs," he said.

Arieh O'Sullivan contributed to this report.

Gov't OKs health-basket expansion

By JUDY SIEGEL and DAVID HARRIS

The cabinet yesterday approved an agreement between long-feuding Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and Health Minister Yehoshua Matza that adds 14 vital drugs to the basket of health services that insurers must provide their clients.

The cost of the medications - for cancer, AIDS, diabetes, schizophrenia and other chronic disorders - will be covered by "savings from existing unnecessary expenses as a solution to the general problem of health funding." These "superfluous costs" will be identified by Matza, "in full cooperation with the finance minister."

Within a month, Neeman will present the cabinet with a proposal for increasing the budget for the basket of health services by NIS 150 million.

After yesterday's vote, Matza thanked the cabinet and Neeman for "responding to the need for adding the new and vital drugs. This is a social amendment of the highest order. A healthy society is that whose leadership responds to those in the population who are ill. But the solution given here still does not

solve the problem of the basket of health services and its income for 1998."

No mention was made of whether other vital drugs that become available in the next few years will be added to the basket.

Although Neeman and Matza agreed on financing the vital medications, after weeks of strident exchanges between themselves and their respective underlings, apparently they do not agree on commentary. Matza's spokesman said the agreement suggested a mechanism to cover the NIS 1.3 billion deficit in the health system; Neeman's spokesman said the problem would be dealt with by the Knesset, especially the Finance Committee, in its deliberations on the arrangements bill, which has sections aimed at shrinking the basket of health services.

The Health Ministry said yesterday that its expects government allocations totalling NIS 700m. to cover more than half of the health system's deficit; the rest could be covered by efficiency measures in the health funds (NIS 300m.) and payments by the public (NIS 300m.).

The Israel Cancer Association welcomed the cabinet decision, which eliminated the "need-

less threat to cancer patients who need strength to fight the battle for their lives. Now patients will get the medications as a right and not as charity. We hope that there will be no repetition of the situation in which cancer patients have to serve as hostages in a disagreement among authorities."

The suit by 10 AIDS patients in Tel Aviv District Labor Court against the Finance and Health Ministries over the health funds' refusal to cover the costs of the anti-AIDS drug "cocktail" was cancelled due to the government's decision.

Labor MK Adisu Massala said he did not intend to withdraw his private member's bill on including AIDS drugs in the basket of services, since he insists that "every new drug for AIDS patients and HIV carriers that is approved for marketing here must be included in the basket automatically."

The Knesset is scheduled to hear no-confidence motions in the prime minister today over the state of the health service. The motions were filed last week by Labor, Meretz and Hadash. They are not expected to pass.

Khatami calls for dialogue with American people

Washington: Teheran's talk must be coupled with deeds

By BARRY NAY

TEHERAN (Reuters) - President Mohammed Khatami went further yesterday than any other leader of revolutionary Iran in opening the way to dialogue with the US, saying he hopes for a thoughtful dialogue with the American people "in the close future."

The 55-year-old Shi'ite clergyman broached the taboo topic of talks with the Americans, Iran's adversary for two decades, by telling reporters at a news conference: "I declare my respects to the great people of the United States,

and I hope that in the close future I would have a dialogue and talk with the people of America, and I hope this will not take long."

Gone were the fiery flourishes and rhetorical references to the US as the "Great Satan" which colored the speeches of his predecessors and still run through discourses by Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

In their place, Khatami made repeated references to the great people of the US. Khatami, who defeated conservative rivals for power in a landslide election in May, reiterated his desire for dialogue between civilizations. But he deflected the question when he was asked how he expected dialogue with the US to come about. And he did not go so far as to say there would be contacts any time soon between the two governments.

"The government of the United States is the government of the United States elected by the people. We respect the choice of the peo-

ple," he said. "At the appropriate time I will present my words to the American people. I would hope for a thoughtful dialogue with the American people and through this thoughtful dialogue we could get closer to peace and security and tranquility."

Khatami's pronouncement drew a resatement of existing US policy from the White House. "The United States is interested in deeds, not words," spokesman Barry Ivie said. Iran and the US have had no diplomatic relations since Washington severed them in 1980 when radical students seized the US Embassy in Teheran and held 55 Americans captive for 444 days.

Arieh O'Sullivan adds: Israel welcomed the moderate statements made by Khatami.

In reply to a query by The Jerusalem Post, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's media adviser Avi Benyahu said that any change would have to be accompanied by positive policies by Iran.

Jewish grandmother front-runner in Guyana

By MARILYN HENRY

A Jewish grandmother from Chicago is likely today to become the president of Guyana, a South American nation in which 90 percent of the people trace their ancestry to India or Africa.

Janet Rosenberg Jagan, 77, appears to be the frontrunner in the election, The New York Times reported yesterday. She is the widow of Cheddi Jagan, a political hero of the majority Indian population, who was president when he died earlier this year.

The Jagans met as students in Chicago in 1942 and went to Guyana to form the People's Progressive Party, with a Marxist, pro-Soviet and anti-colonialist ideology.

Guyana gained independence from Britain in 1966.

Jagan has spent 54 years in Guyana, often battling the British or US governments. She was imprisoned under British rule and had her American citizenship yanked by the US, which feared that Guyana was becoming "another Cuba." Later, when given a chance to recover her American citizenship, she declined, The Times said.

Her Jewish background does not appear to be an issue. "She is an honest woman who does good for all classes and races of people," Abdool Satnar, 61, a Moslem porter told The Times. "That she is Jewish does not bother me in the slightest. What matters is that she suffered with Cheddi and with us ever since British times."

If Jagan wins, she would become the first Jewish woman outside of Israel to be a head of state.

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NEWS

in brief

Lau to visit Mubarak today

Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau is to go to Egypt for a meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak today. Lau, who was personally invited by Mubarak, coordinated the visit with Foreign Minister David Levy and Foreign Ministry Director-General Eitan Bentsur. Cabinet secretary Dan Naveh also was informed of the meeting. Lau said yesterday that he had been asked to bring several messages from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to Mubarak. *Haim Shapiro*

PM meets with Clinton emissary

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met yesterday with US presidential emissary Frank Wisner. The meeting was part of the joint consultative process between Israel and the US, which is part of the effort to deal with and prevent the development of threats to the security of Israel, and to the interests of the US and its allies in the region, threats deriving from the efforts of Iran to acquire non-conventional capability. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Hamas: Terror attacks depend on Israel

Dr. Mahmoud Zahar, a Hamas leader in Gaza, defended Hamas's past suicide attacks on Israel in an interview with The Jerusalem Post yesterday on the organization's tenth anniversary. Hamas began its suicide bombing campaign in response to the Machpelah massacre and the assassination of Yehya Ayyash, Zahar said, and "more suicide bombing attacks against Israeli citizens depend on Israeli assaults on Palestinian civilians." He also said the "Hamas position regarding the Israeli security forces and settlers is unchanged because they are occupiers and Hamas has the right to defend itself in these areas." *Mohammed Najib*

Donor states convene in Paris

Representatives of some 40 governments committed to donating funds for the development of the Palestinian Authority are meeting for two days in Paris, under the auspices of the World Bank. The Palestinian delegation is led by Planning Minister Nabil Shaath and Finance Minister Mohammed Nashashubi. Israel sent Victor Harel, deputy director-general of the Foreign Ministry. Donor countries gave \$335 million during the first nine months of 1997 and are expected to give a total of \$500m. for the year, roughly the same amount given in 1994, 1995 and 1996. *Michel Zlotowski*

Crisis in Likud over party's world convention

A new crisis is brewing in the Likud over what is perceived as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's cooperation with his former office director-general Avigdor Lieberman to elect Lieberman chairman of the World Likud Convention (WLC) and of the Jewish Agency. Lieberman is expected to announce today whether he plans to contend against incumbent WLC chairman Ronni Milo and Salai Meridor, Netanyahu's candidate for Jewish Agency chairman. Milo and Communications Minister Limor Livnat are convinced Netanyahu's intention is to eject them from the list of delegates. Others in the Likud see it as part of a power struggle against the party "rebels," whom Netanyahu and Lieberman want to eliminate politically. *Michal Yudelman*

Parliamentary question sessions kick off today

Although the Knesset does not easily compare to the British parliament, from today they are expected to have at least one thing in common. Speaker Dan Tichon is inaugurating parliamentary question time this afternoon, based on the British system. MKs will be able to ask ministers questions they have not seen in advance. The queries have to relate to one of several predetermined subjects. The first person to try out the new system will be Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy. The questions need to be brief and a minister can refuse to answer a question in public if it could harm the security of the state. *Liat Collins*

Israel nixes deal to settle Holocaust claims

The Foreign Ministry yesterday rejected the suggestion of a specifically Israeli deal with Switzerland to settle Jewish Holocaust-era claims. "This is absolutely not a bilateral issue," said Gideon Meir, the Foreign Ministry's adviser on world Jewish affairs. "It is an issue for the entire Jewish people." The Israeli role was raised over the weekend by Mathis Caballavetta, the chief executive of Union Bank of Switzerland. "If the problem is to be resolved once and for all, then this can only be done via a treaty among Israel, the US, and Switzerland," he told *Sonn timer Zeitung* in an interview published yesterday. *Marilyn Henry*

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of

SHABTAI PETRUSHKA

Yakir Yerushalayim

The funeral will take place today,
Monday, December 15, 1997 at 1:00 p.m.
from Beit Hahesped, Givat Shaul, Jerusalem.

The Family

Shaarei Ratzon,
the Congregation of Spanish and Portuguese Jews in Israel
mourns the passing of

SETY BENABU

and extends its condolences to Isaac Benabu and his family.
Shiva at 63/9 Rehov Bar Kochba, Jerusalem
until Wednesday morning

The Jewish Agency for Israel
Israel Education fund

mourns the passing of

IRVING BERNSTEIN

a devoted friend of Israel
and of the Israel Education Fund.

and extends its sincerest condolences to his
wife Judy and the family.

Eliezer Shavit
Director General
Israel Education Fund

Ahmed Tibi:

Gov't mute over PA anti-terror plan

By DAVID RUDGE

The Palestinian Authority is awaiting Israel's response to its proposal concerning a joint war on terrorism, according to Dr. Ahmed Tibi, senior adviser to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

In an interview with The Jerusalem Post yesterday, Tibi said that the PA is willing to cooperate with Israel in cracking down on terrorism as part of its commitments to the Oslo Accords, provided the Netanyahu government responds to the proposals it was given.

"The articles are there in the Palestinian-Israeli declaration of principles and the protocol of the Hebron accord," he said. "We can't accept conditions in order that a signed treaty be respected. The redeployment should be implemented as is. The chairman told Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai in a meeting between

them two months ago that he was ready for a joint concept on fighting terrorist attacks, based on equal terms. The PA is still waiting for an Israeli reaction."

When asked about the proposal that Israel join forces with the Palestine Liberation Organization in fighting terrorism and Tibi's criticism of there having been no response to this proposal, Netanyahu's director of communication, David Bar-Ilan said, "That is plain hutzpa considering the fact that Yasser Arafat engaged in terrorism and sanctioned it."

Concerning the second pullback, Tibi maintained that the cabinet discussions yesterday were an internal matter.

"I don't want to talk about any specific map, of this or that person or party. The PA is not supposed to negotiate with individual parties or ministers," he said. "We will wait and see what is the end result of

these discussions on redeployment. I hope that the decision will be reasonable, and credible, although I'm not sure that this will be the case."

He also said he hopes the US will play an "active and influential" role.

Tibi maintained that signals emerging from the Israeli government were not very encouraging, especially as decisions were being taken unilaterally without considering Palestinian concerns.

"The continuation of settlement activity, by declaration and on the ground, is another serious negative signal," Tibi said.

Tibi would not specify what the PA would consider an acceptable redeployment.

"I don't want to go into numbers now and Chairman Arafat is also not talking publicly about percentages. The redeployment should be credible and sizable, in both qual-

ity and quantity, and should be contiguous, to enable Palestinians to move freely inside the West Bank," Tibi said.

"I would like to hope that after the implementation of the third stage of redeployment, in accordance with the agreements, all that would remain under Israeli occupation would be certain specified areas."

"These would be borders, east Jerusalem, Jewish settlements and specific military locations. These areas, according to our position, comprise only 10-11 percent of the West Bank. At the end of the third stage, everything else should have been transferred to the PA," Tibi said.

Meanwhile, Netanyahu and his government are publicly seeking to drop the third stage. No PA official will agree to this because the third stage is the most important phase and it should be implemented

in accordance with agreements that have already been signed.

"There are two motives, in my opinion, for Netanyahu's enthusiasm to go straight to final status talks. Firstly, he wants to bypass the interim agreements, on prisoners, airports, seaports, safe passage and other issues. Secondly, he seems to want to have a confrontation on the Jerusalem issue and then, in my opinion, he would call early elections in which the question of Jerusalem would be the key issue."

Tibi also maintained that the article in the PLO Covenant calling for the destruction of Israel already had been cancelled.

"This argument is being used as an excuse by Netanyahu and his aides not to implement agreements and to agitate Israeli public opinion," he added.

Jay Bushinsky contributed to this report.



Settlers protest outside the Prime Minister's Office yesterday.

Doing the right thing

After spending a number of hours at the demonstration organized by settler leaders in front of the Prime Minister's Office yesterday, it was still not quite clear why the group, which organizers said at one point numbered 1,000 people, was demonstrating.

Were they rallying on behalf of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, giving him strength to face down American pressure? Or were they demonstrating against Netanyahu and his government, hoping perhaps to bring him down and quell — at least for the time being — any talk of further withdrawal on the West Bank?

Larry Hirsch, of Beit El, said the address of his protest was neither Netanyahu nor President Bill Clinton. "You never know what impression a single voice at a protest has on heaven," Hirsch said, repeating an almost mystical theme voiced by speaker after speaker.

This message, which brought back memories of the Movement to Stop the Withdrawal from Sinai 16 years ago, was that the Jews have to do what they have to do — put out a supreme, uncompromising effort — and when God sees this, He will "take care of the rest."

"We need to say that God will do the right thing, but we must be engaged in the process," said MK Hanan Porat (National Religious Party), opening his speech by picking up this theme.

MK Benny Elon (Moleket) said essentially the same thing at the end of his address. "If people begin to do what they have to do, to move a little, then God will help them."

The problem facing right-wing activists is that this is not 1993 and the beginning of the Oslo process. This is not a left-wing government headed by Yitzhak Rabin which can bring out passionate emotions. This is a government for which the settlement movement worked and prayed. It is not so easy, as Elon said, to

get people "to move a little."

It seems necessary, therefore, to couch the protesting in spiritual terms, making it almost a religious obligation. And this was done again and again yesterday.

Most of the speakers — veteran hands from the heady Gush Emunim days, who have been fighting the settlement battles for some 25 years — said the government must know that if it decides to withdraw from a centimeter of land, the NRP will bring it down.

"I met with Netanyahu this morning, along with Transportation Minister Yitzhak Levy," Porat told the audience sitting on the grass of the Wohl Rose Garden. "We said that if he carries out the withdrawal, he will not have a government."

Porat said Netanyahu asked why the demonstration was taking place in front of his office, and not in front of the US consulate. "We will also demonstrate in front of the consulate, telling [Secretary of State Madeleine] Albright and Clinton to remove their hands from this issue," he said.

The dual nature of the Right's dilemma was obvious in Porat's one short speech. Is the anger directed toward Clinton or Netanyahu?

That the demonstration was organized by a few settlements in Samaria — Elon Moreh, Kedumim, and Har Bracha — also begs a question: Where was the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza. Why did it not organize the protest?

Arye Ofri, head of the Samaria Regional Council, said that the umbrella settlement council is not convinced of the protest tactic. "You don't establish and overthrow governments just like that," he said. "This government is doing things in the field. It is not enough, but it is doing things. If this were the Rabin era, we wouldn't even be on the map now."

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

By HERB KESNER

Where's the map?

The difficulty Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu now faces in preparing a second redeployment plan reflects something strange and troubling about the government's decision-making process.

Since the Hebron agreement in January, Netanyahu has repeatedly invited the Palestinian side to begin accelerated permanent-status talks. But unless he was absolutely certain that the Palestinians would not respond, he had to have had some idea in his own mind about what Israel's position in negotiations would be. And that presupposes some notion of a map.

Yet every request now from the US administration for a clarification of what logically derives from a permanent-status map — and what should be far simpler and more modest — is rebuffed with the explanation that the government is not yet ready to draw lines on the ground, because it is still working out its definition of Israel's security and other national interests.

"Strange and puzzling" could also describe the process by which these interests are being defined. When the Declaration of Principles was first announced in September 1993, Likud spokesmen, including the leader of the opposition, denounced it for ignoring security needs — and the evidence they cited was the fact that the IDF was not involved in the secret negotiations that produced the DOP.

Yet when the Cairo Interim Agreement was worked out in 1994-95, the IDF (especially the Planning Branch) was so heavily involved in the preparatory work and generals (including the present chief of general staff) were so directly involved in negotiations that the opposition castigated Yitzhak Rabin for "politicizing" the army.

Indeed, the IDF became so closely identified with the Oslo process that it was suspected by the Likud of being emotionally and intellectually bewitched; and after the elections, one leading Likud personality even accused the senior command of being "captive" of Oslo.

It is therefore somewhat ironic that the same IDF is now providing the staff and support work for the defense minister, who is taking the lead in the current government's attempts to define Israel's "security interests," and that the same elements of early warning, lateral and vertical lines of communication, and training and deployment requirements are being factored in to produce approximately the same map.

The difference is that this time, the defense establishment is not alone.

The other major input is National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, who has his own ideas about "national interests." But Sharon's ideas were worked out a long time ago. In 1981, when there were about 80 settlement-points in the West Bank, then-agriculture minister Sharon elaborated a concept that reflected his belief that "every settlement has its purpose and role in the defense of Israel."

The "Sharon Plan" took cartographic shape in a map published by the Jewish Agency Settlement Department and the World Zionist Organization Settlement Division. All that is needed to update this map is to subtract a bit where "Area A" impinges and add a bit to provide for the 60 extra settlements built since then — and for all the access and bypass roads. Such an updated map, combined with the "security interests map" and a "water map," would probably not hold up in permanent-status negotiations, but it could at least provide a strong basis for this redeployment, and the next.

There is no reason why this should be taking so long — unless the problem is really one of satisfying all of Netanyahu's coalition partners, who are happy to go on defining interests forever but refuse to draw any maps at all.

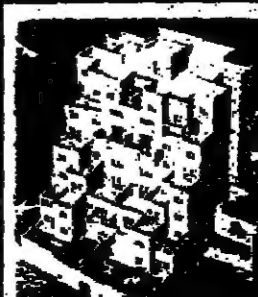
But if that is the case, then Netanyahu will have to go on declining Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's invitation, just as Yasser Arafat has repeatedly declined his. It remains to be seen whether she will be as willing to take "no" for an answer.

The writer is a senior researcher at the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University.

THE KNESSET

There will be a special session of the Knesset at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, December 16, 1997, dedicated to dialogue and tolerance in the spirit of national reconciliation. On that day, from 3 p.m. until the end of the special session and the reception in the Knesset lounge (at approximately 6:30 p.m.), permanent entry permits to the Knesset will not be valid. Entry to the Knesset will be permitted only to holders of special invitations.

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Textile workers demand jobs

Textile workers pull down police barricades and burn signs opposite the Prime Minister's Office yesterday. Hundreds of textile workers came to Jerusalem to protest their dismissals. The workers demanded to return to work, saying they were not interested in receiving severance pay. Kitan Industries laid off 250 workers last week following a decision to cut back the company's spinning and weaving operations. Kitan announced yesterday that PCB, a Migdal Ha'emek maker of printed circuit boards, and Elite's Nazareth-based operation will absorb 'dozens' of the employees Kitan laid off. The company also is discussing arrangements with other potential employers.

(Text: Jennifer Friedler; Photo: Brian Hendler)

High Court asked to place cap on yeshiva deferments

By BAT-SHEVA TSUR
and ARIEN O'SULLIVAN

Despite a growing number of draft deferments for haredi yeshiva students, the Defense Ministry does not plan to change its induction policy.

This emerges from the state response to a petition to the High Court of Justice by MKs Amnon Rubinstein and Haim Oron (both Meretz).

Rubinstein has requested the court order the ministry to show cause why it will not stipulate "a reasonable maximum quota" for yeshiva student deferments. The case will be heard tomorrow.

According to the response submitted by Uzi Fogelman, head of the High Court division of the Justice Ministry, there were 26,262 deferments in 1995 (6.4 percent of recruits) and 26,547 (7.5%) in 1996.

"Over the years, there have been numerous private members bills presented to the Knesset on changing this status quo. None of them reached advanced legislative stages," the state response notes.

According to existing legislation, the defense minister has the discretion to decide on the mat-

ter.

In 1995, it notes, then-defense minister Yitzhak Rabin received the findings of a committee he had empowered to investigate the issue, headed by Defense Ministry deputy director-general Haim Yisraeli.

It recommended that the ministry review the situation from time to time in keeping with security needs.

It also expresses doubts about the efficacy of the yeshiva students as soldiers, should they be forced to serve.

In the state response, Fogelman says that "the statistics... do not show evidence, at this stage, of a fear that state security could really be affected. Fixing a ceiling could create substantive legal and public difficulties."

The state plans to request that the court reject the petition on the grounds that it is not qualified to deal with the issue.

Rubinstein said that the petition is different from previous ones in that it only calls for setting a limit on the number of deferments for yeshiva students.

Previous petitions had sought to dissolve the arrangement altogether. Rubinstein blasted Defense

Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's refusal to set a ceiling, saying it was contrary to the Yisraeli study, which found that a whopping 40 percent of those gaining deferments on religious grounds did not really study in yeshivot as they claimed.

"The minister of defense has to react to Haim Yisraeli. What he has done instead is make a decision based on political reasons instead of defense ones," Rubinstein said.

Rubinstein and Oron are seeking a ceiling of 4%. According to Rubinstein, the number of people seeking deferments to study in yeshivot has doubled in the past four years.

At this rate, by the end of the century one out of every 10 people eligible for the draft will be deferred for religious reasons.

Rubinstein also criticized the lax treatment of draft dodgers, saying that 92% wind up getting released from the military altogether.

"What is worse is that those few who are eventually tried are given minimal fines of NIS 1,000-NIS 1,500. They are getting a prize for evading military service," Rubinstein said. "This is increasing the burden on those who do serve."

Memorial for Jewish veterans set for Ammunition Hill

By ARIEN O'SULLIVAN

A monument honoring all the world's Jewish war veterans is to be erected on Jerusalem's Ammunition Hill, site of one of the most famous battles in the 1967 reunification of the city.

The decision was made at a recent London meeting of the organizing committee of the World Assembly of Jewish War Veterans, said Maj.-Gen. (res.) Moshe Nativ, Israel's representative and initiator of the monumental project.

Nativ, chairman of Tzevet, the organization of IDF pensioners, said he saw the monument not only as a memorial but a unique tourist attraction for visitors who may wish to learn more of Jewish valor in armies around the world.

"It's not a gimmick," Nativ said. "It doesn't exist anywhere else in

the world and the only place it can truly be set up is here in Israel."

Nativ said he proposed the idea to the French, English, and American members of the committee, who enthusiastically endorsed it. The proposal is to be brought before a world gathering of Jewish veterans in Jerusalem in February for final approval.

"The idea is that whoever wants to identify with a Jewish fighter will have an address. The site chosen was Ammunition Hill," Nativ said.

Some 250 Jewish veterans are expected to participate in the conference scheduled for February 16-19 as part of the 50th anniversary celebrations. Participants will be coming from the US, South Africa, Greece, France, England, Finland, and the former Soviet Union; Nativ said. They will be meeting with President Ezer

Weizman and top IDF officers, including Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin Shahak.

Nativ also wants to establish a library and center at the museum that will allow research into Jewish fighters in history.

"This memorial could enhance its development of the whole issue of Jewish warriors," Nativ said. "No money will be asked for." Nativ said, adding that all funds for erecting the monument will come from private donations. "I think that we will find plenty of willing contributors to this project."

Nativ said the monument would be symbolic of a Jewish fighter. Col. (res.) Shimon Cabaner, current director of the museum at Ammunition Hill, praised the idea of a memorial for Jewish veterans worldwide at the site of his museum.

Benizri denies reports he plans to run in election for mayor of Jerusalem

By ELI WOHLGELANTER

MK Shlomo Benizri (Shas) yesterday denied published reports that he plans to run for mayor of Jerusalem, but said he has not ruled out the possibility.

"A journalist called and asked whether it was true I'm going to run for mayor," Benizri said. "I told him that I didn't speak about it with anyone yet, that I had to speak with Aryeh Deri and Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, but that it was true that many people I meet in the street tell me that if I ran, they would support me."

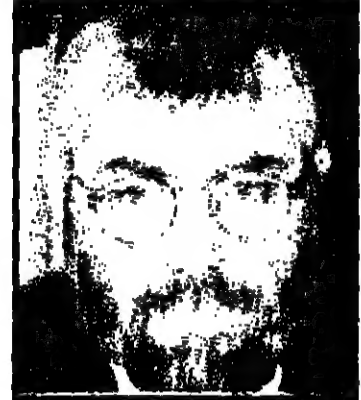
Benizri said he spoke with Deri and other Sephardi leaders over the weekend, and that they "took a decision for now not to do anything. We have to think about it. For now, my answer is negative."

Benizri said one issue would be how much support his candidacy would have among the other Orthodox parties.

"If the haredim will not support me, we won't do anything," he said. "If they will support me, we can talk about the future, because I believe many secular people will support me."

Benizri said that the secular community trusts him because "I speak their language, and they feel that I can connect between secular and religious people. I think that even the Arabs will support me."

A spokesman for Mayor Ehud Olmert said the mayor would not comment on particular candidates, but that he "gives his blessing to everyone thinking about running, and he hopes that it will be a



MK Shlomo Benizri (Isaac Harari)

democratic and fair vote." Benizri said he has a very good, friendly relationship with Olmert - "I don't have anything against

him" - and that he was upset about the report because "Olmert will think that I am going against him. But you can tell him that I don't have any plans."

Deputy Mayor Rabbi Chaim Miller (United Torah Judaism) was quoted as saying that his party would not support any haredi candidate for mayor, as it would only serve to increase tensions between the Orthodox and non-Orthodox camps in the capital.

One political insider said it would be difficult for Benizri to form a viable coalition because "haredim are not a majority in the city, the National Religious Party would never vote haredi, Ashkenazim would not vote for a Sephardi, and the haredim never take a *ba'al teshuva* (returnee to religion) as their leader."

PALESTINIAN PRESS REVIEW

By MICHAEL SELA

Islamic conference

The Islamic conference in Teheran last week received worldwide attention. While important leaders of Islamic countries preferred to stay at home, the Palestinians attended at the highest level.

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's participation in the conference was covered by the Palestinian newspapers in minute details.

The entire text of Arafat's speech to the conference was printed in all three dailies.

Commentators looked at the conference in the context of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. A cartoon in the official *al-Hayat al-Jadida* showed the Islamic world as a person with one eye pulled out.

It is Jerusalem, symbolized by the Dome of the Rock, which Netanyahu holds in his hands.

The visit of Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai to Ankara during the conference was not a coincidence, according to Nabil Khouri in *al-Quds*. Relating to a US declaration that Mordechai's visit was an element on the road to solve the Middle East problems, Khouri asked "whether both countries' attitude toward Syria and Iraq is one of the means for peace, which our shallow political education is unable to understand?"

Iran's treatment of the problems raised during the conference and its efforts to end it with a moderate declaration proved that Iran has gradually been changing its radical image, according to Hani Habib in *al-Ayyam*.

Despite echoes of Iranian internal struggles, "it seems that Iran succeeded to challenge the American will, break the blockade of isolation and return forcefully to the international arena."

Furthermore, the wide Arab attendance, despite bitter rivalries with Teheran, was another official challenge to the American policy in the region after the failure of the Doha economic conference.

The real lesson will be the ability of Arab and Islamic states to overcome internal conflicts and create mechanisms to prevent more conflicts in the future, wrote Basem Jisr in *al-Quds*.

PA census

The first Palestinian general census was the national event of the week.

Al-Hayat al-Jadida published telephone numbers, E-mail and web-site addresses for the census office, along with its daily reports on the controversy surrounding the census.

A general census of the population is an essential procedure for any economic, social, cultural and even political activity, wrote *al-Quds* in an editorial. The census is needed also to collect facts for the final settlement of the conflict.

"Therefore, it is strange that Israel puts obstacles in the way of the project," according to *al-Quds*. Even though Israel has declared the annexation of eastern Jerusalem, officially the fate of the city is to be negotiated by both sides, not by one-sided procedures.

"Has Israel anything to hide?" asked *al-Quds* a rhetorical question, adding that, "as long as Palestinians live in Jerusalem, the Palestinian Authority has the right to know all statistical facts about them."

Celebrating the tenth anniversary of the intifada, *al-Ayyam* published a special supplement, with memorial stories and opinion articles.

Two journalists visited the Jabatiya families, whose relatives were killed in the car accident which became the catalyst for the intifada. Another article told stories of mothers whose children or husbands were killed.

In a report in *al-Hayat al-Jadida*, Kamal Astal mentioned negative results of the intifada: the damage inflicted on the Palestinian education system and the deterioration of the economy.

Entitled "What is going on in our place?" *Al-Hayat al-Jadida* related in an editorial to a severe problem in the Palestinian society: revenge as a means of solving families disputes. Hostilities and mutual bloodshed continue for years.

Demanding severe punishment for those who are involved in such actions, the paper wrote: "either the rule of law and the awe of the authorities prevail, or our nation retreats backwards while [other societies] move forward."

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Hanegbi, Yahalom clash over Penal Code change

By BATSHEVA TSUR

Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi is hastily trying to postpone an amendment to the Penal Code, while Knesset Law Committee chairman Shaul Yahalom is attempting to thwart his efforts.

Hanegbi fears that the amendment would allow "massive quantities of dangerous criminals" to be freed. Yahalom sees it as a step backward.

Technically known as Amendment 61 to the Arrests Law, the legislation would permit those who have been remanded until the completion of hearings, but whose trials have not been completed

within six months of indictment, to be freed. The amendment was passed by the Knesset and is to go into effect on January 1.

But at a meeting with the attorney-general, state attorney, prisons heads, and police experts last week, fears were voiced that it would be expressly the most violent criminals who would be set free, since the understaffed courts cannot deal with all the cases before them.

Hanegbi therefore appealed to the cabinet to approve an amendment that would delay the implementation of the new legislation. The cabinet concurred.

But Yahalom described the move

as "returning Israel to the Dark Ages," pointing out that it would keep innocent people in horrifying conditions, particularly those at the Russian Compound lock-up in Jerusalem. He said he would appeal to all MKs to oppose the bill.

For his part, Hanegbi defended the move as a "balanced decision which will lessen pressures gradually over four years." In two years, the length of detention would decrease from a year to 9 months, he said, and in four years, it would stand at 6 months. This would enable the reform of the courts to go ahead at a parallel pace, he said.

Child-benefit cut proposals generate cross-party opposition

By DAVID HARRIS

MKs from all parties yesterday roundly condemned the Treasury recommendation to cut child benefit payments by NIS 500 million next year.

Discussing the proposal as part of the ongoing debate on the 1998 state budget, Knesset Finance Committee members said there is no way they can support the overall package when it contains such a scheme, which will hit the general population.

The government hopes to save NIS 500m. by reducing the size of child benefit payments on the first and second children for those in the two upper income brackets.

State Budget Director David Milgrom told MKs that the proposal would only affect the richest in society and any alternative that includes tax hikes is far less acceptable.

"So far no alternative proposal exists," said Treasury spokesman Eli Yosef. "I understand that the opposition was wall-to-wall, but no vote was taken."

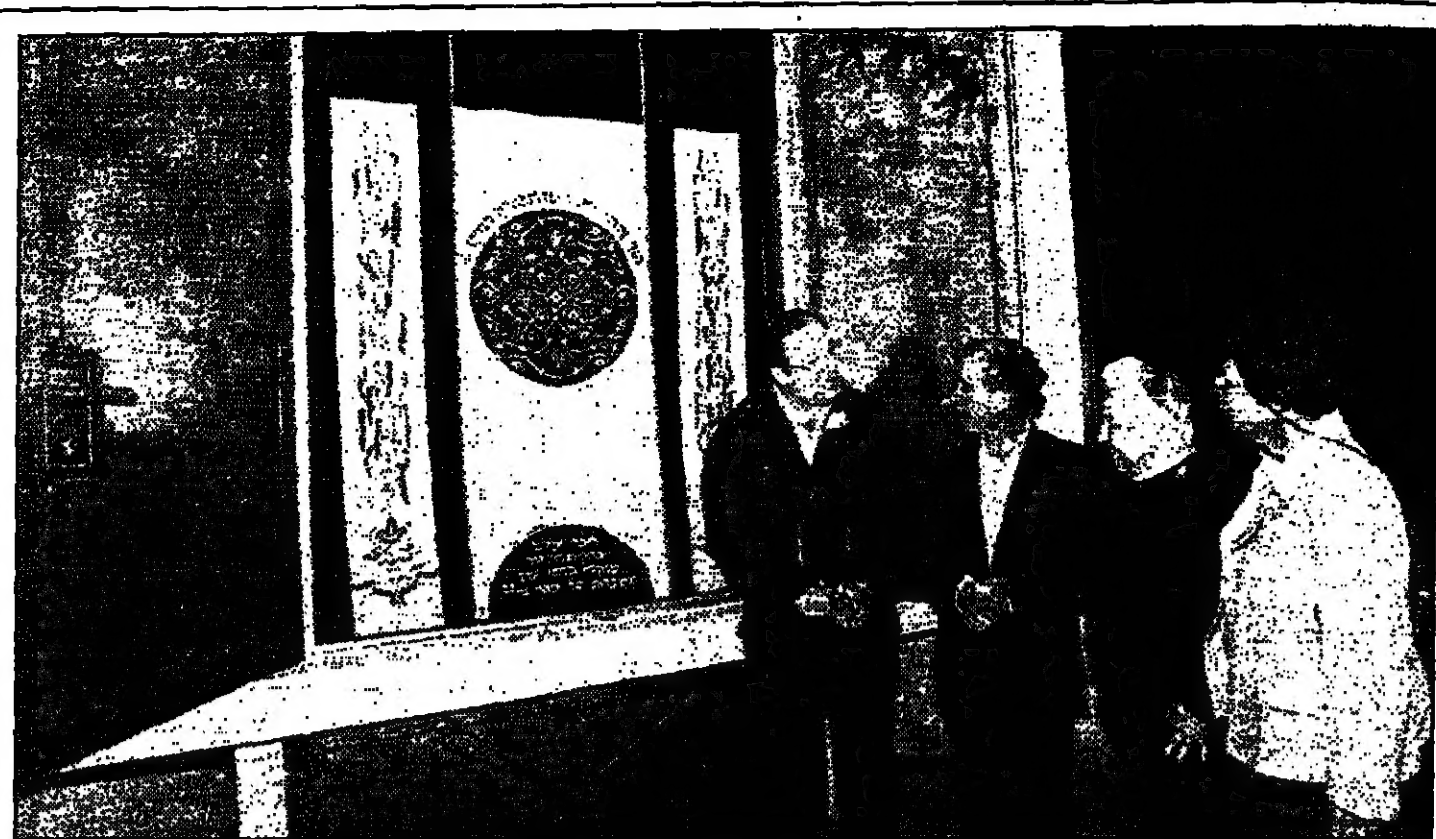
The Treasury is presently considering implement-

ing a series of measures that would end universal child benefit payments. Under the long-term plan, individual families would be asked to report their income and fixed expenditures on a regular basis to either the National Insurance Institute or to the Income Tax Commission. This data then would be used to assess payments such as child benefits.

"The Treasury should forget about [cutting] child benefits," said finance committee coalition leader Michael Kleiner (Geshet).

He told Milgrom that it is easy for MKs to say the Treasury should look for alternatives, but that they should do this together. Kleiner, amongst others, said he will refuse to approve the cuts to child benefits, NIS 600m. in cuts to mortgages and NIS 300m. in cuts to afternoon activities for young children. Possible alternative sources of funding could be a tax on foreign workers, a one percent increase in VAT, or price rises for gas and cigarettes, he suggested.

"Given the choice between a cut to child benefits and an increase in income tax, I'd choose income tax," Kleiner said.



Conservative synagogue stands fast

Emily Levy-Shochat (from right), president of Congregation Hod Vehadar, Prof. Alice Shalvi, rector of the Conservative movement's Institute of Judaic Studies in Jerusalem, Moti Laksman, a member of Hod Vehadar, and Dr. Shlomo Romi, an Orthodox resident of Kfar Sava, stand in front of the ark at Hod Vehadar in Kfar Sava yesterday after affixing a mezuza on the doorpost. The mezuza of the Conservative synagogue was removed by unknown assailants on Yom Kippur.

(Text: Haim Shapiro; photo: Yael Somesh/Israel Sun)

NRP astir as Hammer re-enters hospital

By JUDY SEGEL and LIAT COLLINS

Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy (National Religious Party) yesterday dismissed as "low and mean" a report in *Yedioth Aharanot* that he had been earmarked to replace Education Minister Zevulun Hammer as NRP head due to the latter's illness.

NRP secretary general Zevulun Orlev also distanced himself, in an interview on Channel 1, from persistent rumors that various figures in the party are already bracing for a succession struggle in case Hammer steps down.

Hammer is being treated at Hadassah-University Hospital, officially for the flu, amid reports that he has been suffering from serious health problems over the last year.

The long-time NRP leader is in the Ein-Karem campus's surgical division, but his doctor, division chief Arie Durst, said he is only being treated for "the flu." He spent Shabbat at home after being admitted to the hospital last week, but returned yesterday to the surgical division. Durst said he was treating him because "he's a friend of mine; his being in my department has nothing to do with surgery."

Earlier this year, Durst operated on Hammer to remove a tumor from his abdomen, but he did not offer details about the illness.

"Hammer, to the best of my knowledge, fully intends returning to work, and we all wish him only the best of health and that he should continue in his post for many years to come," said Levy.

The *Yedioth* report said Levy would take over from Hammer both as party leader and education minister and that Knesset Law Committee Chairman Shaul Yahalom would replace Levy in the Transport Ministry.

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Civil Service Commissioner:

Mrs. Netanyahu's staff is too big

By BATSHEVA TSUR

Civil Service Commissioner Shmuel Hollander plans to propose new regulations with regard to the employment of civil servants among the staff of the prime minister's wife.

Hollander, who said he hoped the issue would take the form of legislation, was speaking in an Israel Radio interview.

Commenting on the widely pub-

lized article in Friday's *Yedioth Aharonot* about the persons employed by Sara Netanyahu, Hollander said he would act to introduce the regulations "in the next few days. The report acted as a catalyst for a step which should any way have been taken."

According to the report, Netanyahu has two secretaries, a spokeswoman, and a driver and uses two rooms in the Prime Minister's Office as her personal

bureau. "When the Prime Minister's Office supplies civil servants for purposes like this, it has to be formulated by law," Hollander said, pointing out that the prime minister's wife is neither a civil servant nor an elected official. "In my opinion, she should be entitled to a secretary and a driver."

Hollander said that "when it comes to a driver, for security reasons this is acceptable and it was the practice in the past too. It's difficult

to expect the wife of a prime minister to walk around alone, to take a bus or a taxi. With regard to a bureau, this is a question. On the one hand, she has public activities as the wife of the premier and perhaps needs an office to deal with mail. In the case of Leah Rabin, the wife of the late Yitzhak Rabin, there was a special Knesset committee decision to grant her a bureau to deal with the large quantities of letters she received — but as the widow...

From the purely legal, formal point of view today, the wife of the premier does not have the right to a bureau of her own, a secretary, or other administrative staff."

Asked whether the prime minister's wife has the right to fire people who work in her home, Hollander said this is the prerogative of the prime minister.

"Even though they are civil servants, he has the right to trust the people who work closely to him."

Goldberg slated to replace Ben-Porat

By BATSHEVA TSUR

Supreme Court Justice Eliezer Goldberg is the leading candidate to replace Miriam Ben-Porat as state comptroller when she retires after handing in her annual report this summer.

Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi has approached political and legal circles to support Goldberg's nomination, Justice Ministry spokeswoman Ety Eshed confirmed yesterday.

The comptroller, who is chosen by secret ballot by the Knesset, serves for five years, and Ben-Porat will have completed two terms.

The election takes place, according to the Basic Law: State Comptroller, at



Eliezer Goldberg
(Brian Hestler)

least 90 days before the assumption of office by the new candidate.

The law does not stipulate that the comptroller must be a justice, but like Ben-Porat, her predecessor Ya'acov Maltz also came from the Supreme Court.

Goldberg, 67, has been a justice for 13 years and is considered an expert in criminal law.

Livnat to meet Pollard

By JUDY SIEGEL

Communications Minister Limor Livnat will visit convicted spy Jonathan Pollard at Butner Penitentiary in North Carolina on Wednesday and present him with personal letters from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman, and Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai. Although Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein visited Pollard a

few weeks ago, it is the first time that the prison authorities are allowing Israeli photographers and reporters to cover the encounter.

Netanyahu wrote in his brief message that he sends "warm wishes" to Pollard, who has spent more than 4,000 days in US prisons. "All Israelis are concerned about your continued suffering, particularly after you have expressed profound remorse for your actions," he wrote.



New stress center

Cutting the ribbon to inaugurate the International Center for the Research of Coping with Stress and Emergency in Tel Hai yesterday is Kiryat Shmona deputy mayor Herzl Ben-Asher. Looking on (from right) are Dr. Molly Lahad, head of the center; Dr. Lenore Behar, North Carolina's deputy secretary of education; Prof. Jack Richman; and Aliza Amir-Zohar, president of Tel-Hai College. The center will work in cooperation with North Carolina University.

(Avihu Shapiro/Israel Sun)

SPNI in turmoil

By LIAT COLLINS

The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, which has fought many environmental battles over the years, is currently engaged in a struggle over who will determine its future role. The infighting between the original SPNI leaders and a breakaway group burst into the open over the weekend with news stories and a television report.

Mickey Lipschitz, a former senior figure in the SPNI who now is in charge of environmental protection in the Environment Ministry, claims Dror Hoter-Yishai, who heads the breakaway SPNI Reconnaissance Groups, is trying to gain control of the SPNI to prevent it from objecting to land development projects he is involved in. Hoter-Yishai, who is the chairman of the Bar Association, rejects the charge and accuses the current SPNI executive of neglecting educational efforts. The Friends of the SPNI, headed by SPNI Chairman of the Board Yoav Sagi and SPNI founding member Azaria Alon, was founded last week to, among other goals, thwart Hoter-Yishai's takeover bid.

NEWS

in brief

MDA staffers intensify sanctions

Magen David Adom staffers, who declared a work dispute against the government a year ago, have intensified their sanctions by transporting patients without charge and without filling out identifying forms, as well as refusing to participate in emergency drills. The MDA workers' union said they are furious not only at the Finance and Health ministries, but also at the Histadrut.

The workers are demanding special duty pay (which hospital workers receive), the continued presence of accompanying medics in ambulances, additional salary grades and compensation for dealing with dangerous materials in rescue operations. By refusing to take down details at road accidents, MDA will be unable to collect payment for ambulance services. Workers' information meetings will also be held during work time. No comment was available from the two ministries. *Judy Siegel*

Possible rabies case in Nahariya Hospital

A 58-year-old man from the North was admitted to Nahariya Hospital a few days ago with symptoms that could point to rabies. The man complained about headache and throat pain, respiratory difficulties, high fever, and confusion. Doctors noted scratches on his face and hands caused three or four months ago by an unidentified animal, but the man had not reported this. The patient was put in isolation and more tests are being done. *Judy Siegel*

Cabinet votes to close Pi Giliot gas ranch

The cabinet yesterday accepted National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon's recommendation to close the Pi Giliot gas depot by December 31, 2000, the ministry announced yesterday. In the interim, an alternative site should be set up, it said. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

MKs visit Falash Mura

Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee Chairwoman Naomi Blumenthal yesterday visited the Falash Mura currently living at the Hatzot Yosef caravan site. Blumenthal, who visited with committee members MK Adisu Massala (Labor) and Eliezer Zandberg (Likud), said that she hoped the camps for the Falash Mura would be closed within two years. The Absorption Ministry already has announced plans to close other caravan sites for the other Ethiopian immigrants in the early months of 1998.

Kupat Holim Leumi staff told Blumenthal that the two buildings at Hatzot Yosef allocated for treatment are insufficient and that in the winter residents wait two to three hours in the rain for treatment. She also was told that there is a need for more personnel to help explain to the Falash Mura how to avoid various types of disease.

Some 1,400 Falash Mura are currently at the site, 400 of them children. *Artyeh Dean Cohen*

Activists call for re-think on Haifa marina

The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel is calling for a re-think on Haifa's proposed multi-million dollar marina and hotels complex project. The SPNI is urging members of the Coastal Waters Commission, which is due to meet today, not to make any decision regarding the proposals. The society maintains that the plans have been altered and amended since they were approved by the National Planning and Building Commission in 1988. The SPNI, which is opposed to the project, claiming it would harm Haifa's coastline and endanger marine life, is pressing for the proposals to be referred back to the National Planning Commission for further consideration. *David Rudge*

Man sentenced to 8 years in prison for raping stepdaughter

A Rishon LeZion man yesterday received an eight-year prison sentence and two-year suspended sentence for sexually abusing his stepdaughter for two years. Tel Aviv District Court Judge Amnon Strassman, Ze'ev Hammer, and Shelli Taiman said they could find nothing positive to say about a man who had lied in court to discredit his stepdaughter.

The man had helped his wife raise the girl, who is now 17, from the time she was three months old. For two years, when his wife was out of the house or

at night when the rest of the family was sleeping, he would rape his stepdaughter. He often would wait for her to come home at night. She didn't tell anyone because she didn't want to upset the family.

Several years ago, however, she thought that she was pregnant and told a nurse at a health clinic that her stepfather had raped her. The nurse contacted police, but when the girl found out that she was not pregnant, she denied her earlier statements. In October 1996, however, she told her mother.

The stepfather denied all charges, saying that the girl was trying to ruin his relationship with her mother. Initially, the mother supported her daughter, and the stepfather was barred from the house.

However, after one of their sons attempted to commit suicide, the mother changed her stance and said that she wanted him to return home.

In their decision, judges noted that if the stepfather were not imprisoned, the girl would be forced to leave her home. (Itim)

Where to eat in Israel

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KOHINOR Kosher Indian Restaurant — Kashrut supervision by Rabbi Yosef Fink. Buffet lunch NIS 47 (children NIS 24) Open 12-4 p.m.; 6 p.m.-midnight. Holiday Inn Hotel, The Crown Plaza. Tel. 02-658 8867, Tel./Fax 02-653 6667.

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Turkey attacks EU's enlargement decision

By HIRSH GOKTAS

ANKARA (Reuters) — Turkish Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz yesterday denounced an invitation to attend an EU conference next year, indicating Ankara would not attend because of the conditions set for participation.

"Turkey's attendance at the EU conference has been made dependent on the fulfillment of conditions," Yilmaz told reporters after a two-hour cabinet meeting held to discuss the outcome of the summit in Luxembourg. "This invitation does not have any importance for us. We

will not accept any conditions."

A state minister subsequently said this meant Turkey would not attend the European Conference in Britain in March. The conference will launch the group toward its biggest ever expansion.

"Turkey will not participate," State Minister Suku Sina Gurel told reporters, elaborating on Yilmaz's comments.

At its weekend summit, the EU failed to issue Turkey a formal invitation to membership talks, a source of deep disappointment to Yilmaz and his secularist political allies.

They see membership in the EU as a

guarantee of Turkey's Western vocation and a blow to their domestic Islamist critics.

Yilmaz said Turkey would continue its existing relations with the EU, but said development of the relationship depended on Europe fulfilling its obligations.

"Despite the position stated at the Luxembourg summit, Turkey will continue its will for incorporation in the EU. But for this to happen the EU must not insist on this erroneous and troublesome path," he said.

The EU called at the summit for Turkey to improve its human rights record, pro-

tect the rights of its Kurdish minority and move to solve long-standing territorial disputes with Greece, including the future of the divided island of Cyprus.

Yilmaz said Turkey would not hold talks with the EU on Cyprus and Greece after the decisions in Luxembourg.

"After this, our government will not discuss the subjects of Cyprus and our relations with Greece," he said.

The EU asked members of the European Conference — bringing together the 15 existing EU partners, 11 applicants, and Turkey — to respect the jurisdiction of the Hague-based International

Court of Justice for resolving disputes and to respect the principles of the European Union.

Traditional rival Greece welcomed the move.

"We fought hard and made our arguments understood," a senior Greek government official who asked for anonymity said. "In essence all our positions over what Turkey should do to come closer to the EU were endorsed." The Turkish press, meanwhile, said the country faced the end of its European dream, already decades in the making.

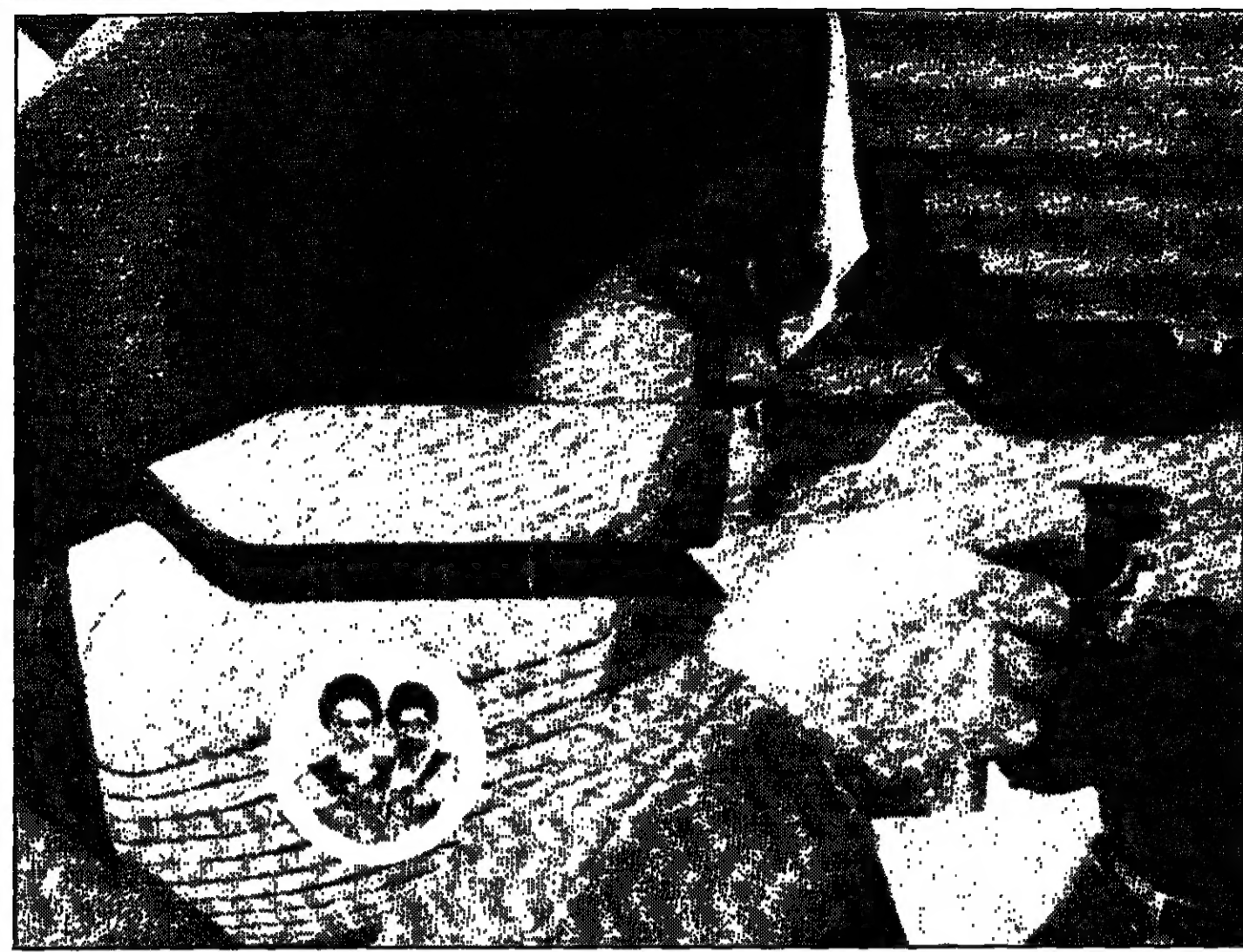
"Ankara angry at the EU," said a head-

line in *Sabah*.

The *Hurriyet* daily said Turkey told Europe it might withdraw its application for full membership, as it had not been invited to formal EU membership talks.

"We are at a point now further away than we were 10 years ago," *Hurriyet* columnist Oktay Eksi said of Turkey's membership bid. "From Turkey's point of view the situation holds no hope."

The Turkish government has told the wealthy 15-member bloc it will set its geopolitical sights in another direction if the EU does not hold out a genuine prospect of membership.



The other side of the veil

A member of the woman's Iranian shooting team practices yesterday at the Azadi sports complex in Teheran. The team is participating in the Islamic Countries Women Sports Games. The sticker on the gun shows Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, former spiritual leader and founder of the Iranian revolution (left), and Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, current spiritual leader. (AP)

Italy mourns Fiat heir Agnelli, 33

By PHILIP PULLELLA

ROME (Reuters) — Italy yesterday mourned the death of Giovanni Alberto Agnelli, destined to become head of the Fiat industrial empire before succumbing to stomach cancer at 33.

"The shattered fairy tale" ran a headline Milan's *Corriere della Sera*, reflecting the tragedy of a man who left behind a young bride, a three-month old daughter, and a suitcase full of personal and professional dreams.

Agnelli, who died on Saturday, was the unwilling prince charming of the dynasty Italians like to consider their Kennedys.

A spokesman said he was buried in the family tomb in a cemetery at Villar Perosa, outside Turin, while the city most associated with the Fiat fortune was still waking up.

The timing was a reflection of how Agnelli tried to shun the media spotlight perpetually trained on the nation's first family.

Agnelli was publicly announced as Fiat's heir apparent in 1995, and had been tipped to take over next year when chairman Cesare Romiti is due to step down.

But most Italians admired Agnelli for his personal values rather than his business prowess, although he was equally respected in the boardroom, the streets, and the soccer stands.

Newspapers were full of touching photos of Agnelli with his British-American wife, architect Avery Howe, whom he met while being educated in the US and married in 1996.

The shy young man with a far-away look in his eyes was being groomed to become chief of Italy's biggest private industrial empire, before the shock discovery last April that he was suffering from a rare form of stomach cancer.

One of his last happy moments came four days before his death, when he was quietly taken from the family estate in the countryside near Turin to see his beloved Juventus soccer team play Manchester United.

Juventus won a dramatic match 1-0 and qualified for the quarter-finals of the European Cup. But footage of Agnelli in the stands that night appeared to show he was in pain.

The boy manager who like to read Byron lost his nine-month battle with cancer, but kept his dignity throughout the ordeal.

"Farewell, normal guy," said Turin's *La Stampa*, which, like the Juventus soccer team, is owned by the Agnelli family.

Agnelli, known as



Giovanni Alberto Agnelli and Avery Howe leave the church after their November 1996 wedding in Montopoli, Tuscany. (AP)

"Giovannino", was president of the Piaggio motorcycle group and nephew of Fiat honorary chairman Giovanni "Gianni" Agnelli.

Despite being born into Italy's richest and most famous family, Agnelli like to call himself a pragmatist with dreams.

At 18, he worked on an assembly line in one of the Agnelli factories in industrial Turin to see how life was for workers.

"He didn't know how to do anything. He was supposed to wash pieces and prepare the work bench," Pietro Suppini, a factory worker who knew him at the time told *La Repubblica* newspaper.

But the humbling experience

served him well in later years. "I am convinced that industry's role is to improve society. Maybe this is more important than simply churning out profits," he said.

Agnelli joined Piaggio, which had been in his mother's family, in 1987 and within seven years was chairman and chief executive of Piaggio Veicoli Europei SpA.

He turned the company around, building it into the leader in the European scooter sector and the fourth worldwide, behind Japanese giants Honda, Suzuki, and Yamaha.

If Agnelli had lived to take over the reins at Fiat, it would have put the family name back in the top

post again in time for its centenary in 1999.

Agnelli's death opens up the question of the succession to lead the huge industrial concern into the 21st century.

An indication of the respect Agnelli had gained not only in the boardroom but among workers came with comments of tribute from trades union leaders.

"The death of Giovanni Agnelli is a great loss to the nation," said Sergio D'Antoni, leader of Italy's second biggest trade union, CISL. "I believe, that even in his short life, he showed clear signs of great managerial skills. I am deeply saddened."

Yeltsin says he's back at work though still ill

By PHILIPPA FLETCHER

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin, convalescing from a viral infection in a sanatorium outside Moscow, said yesterday he is not yet fully recovered but is in full command.

"I caught a sore throat somewhere. I'm a bit weak. On the whole, I don't feel too good," Yeltsin said, speaking in a hoarse voice after casting his vote at the sanatorium in an election for the Moscow city parliament.

The doctors say it is a normal virus... It's nothing special, it's the one going around in Moscow," he told reporters, adding that it would take about 10 days to clear up.

"I am a Moscovite so I caught it. It shows that I am in touch with Moscovites," he said with a smile.

The 66-year-old president seemed out of sorts, but moved freely around the room where a ballot box and polling booths had been set up for him and his wife.

Asked if he is working, he said aides bring him a huge pile of papers each day.

"Half a meter at least. I spend at least four hours sitting at a table, with breaks of course," he added.

"Things are all right in Russia. I am following things all the time..."

In a word, there is control. I am being kept informed, about security matters too, so don't worry."

On Saturday, doctors said Yeltsin's temperature was normal for a second day running and his blood pressure was stable.

The surgeon who conducted heart surgery on Yeltsin last November said Friday that the disease had nothing to do with the operation and that the president should be back at work full time next week.

The Kremlin had said on Saturday Yeltsin would be allowed to take a walk outside. But a spokesman was unable to confirm he would go out yesterday, when temperatures plunged to minus 20 Celsius in the snow-covered capital.

Yeltsin expressed concern over recent tragedies in Russia, including two air crashes and an explosion in a coal mine which killed dozens of people.

"Such things have not happened for a long time," he said, adding that everything is being done to help those injured and the relatives of the victims.

The Kremlin has said Yeltsin would not have any meetings with politicians this week and that several planned events had been cancelled.

These include a Wednesday meeting of a council governing a union created between Russia and Belarus this year, and a session of the committee governing a customs union with Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Belarus a day later.

A meeting with Bulgarian President Petar Stoyanov planned for Friday has also been put off.

But, underlining that it is business-as-usual for the government, Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin is due in Turkey for an official visit on today and tomorrow.

The last time Yeltsin voted, in the 1996 presidential election in which he won a second term, he was also at Barvikha, situated among woods and low hills west of Moscow.

Officials then explained that he was suffering merely from "a cold." It turned out that he had renewed heart problems, which eventually forced him to have a bypass operation.

The Kremlin has since pledged more openness about Yeltsin's health and has issued daily bulletins since he went into Barvikha on Wednesday with the infection, which doctors said had developed from a cold caught on a visit to Sweden a week before.

Klaus recaptures party while Czech coalition talks continue

By JAN LOPATKA

PODEBRADY, Czech Republic (Reuters) — Outgoing Czech Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus won re-election as chairman of his Civic Democratic Party yesterday and said the vote put to rest the scandal over fund-raising that brought down his government.

But he said the Civic Democrats had not decided whether to join the new cabinet his former allies are trying to assemble in the country's finely balanced parliament.

More than five years in power make Klaus the longest-serving prime minister in post-Communist Eastern Europe. His three-party center-right coalition cabinet fell apart last month over allegations that the Civic Democrats held a secret foreign bank account and had improperly accepted donations of 7.5 million crowns (\$217,000) in 1995.

The split had looked like a mortal wound for Klaus, who denied acting improperly but was abandoned by senior party colleagues.

Instead, he won re-election at yesterday's party conference by an emphatic 227 votes to 72 for former interior minister Jan Ruml.

"I take this as an immensely serious commitment. I take this as a responsibility and I am calling for all your maximum participation and cooperation," Klaus told delegates after the vote.

He said the funding issue had been resolved by his re-election. "Congress is not an interrogation room. The political responsibility was solved here," he said.

Klaus has ruled out his own participation in what is expected to be a short-lived new administration, and had previously said the party should go into opposition ahead of anticipated early elections.

Yesterday, however, he said the party's newly-elected leadership would decide whether to join a reformed cabinet.

If they stay out, their former partners — the centrist Christian Democrats and pro-business Civic

Democratic Alliance — would try to form an interim cabinet.

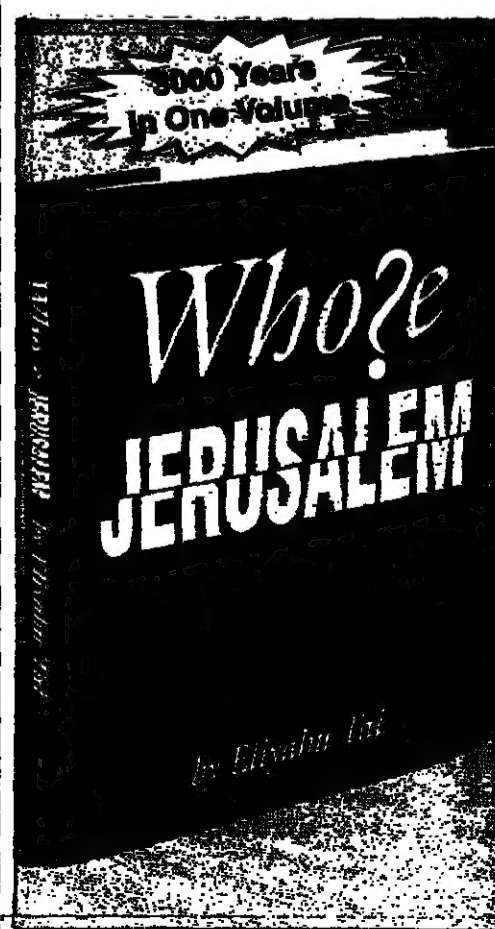
Christian Democrat leader Josef Lux, who has been leading talks on forming a cabinet, told President Vaclav Havel on Friday that key political leaders, including the head of the main opposition Social Democrats, believed the new government should have only a limited mandate ahead of early elections.

The outgoing coalition controlled just 100 seats in the 200-member lower house of parliament, so the government's survival sometimes hung on a single vote.

Jiri Skalicky, chairman of the Civic Democratic Alliance, told commercial TV Nova that without Klaus's party, the new cabinet would be "hostages of the opposition."

Havel, in his weekly radio address broadcast on Sunday, said he hoped to name a government this week and by next week at the latest.

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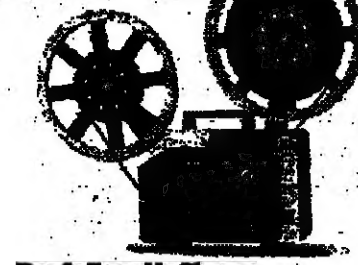
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Love in red and white

Movie Review



By Adina Hoffman

Based on British writer Nick Hornby's autobiographical bestseller, *Fever Pitch* is a genuinely delightful love story, though the romance in question isn't of the usual boy-meets-girl sort. While the film does have its boy, Paul (Colin Firth), and girl, Sarah (Ruth Gemmell), both English teachers at a London school, and they do meet and get together early on, the movie's real concern — the source of its sweetly madcap energy — is Paul's other, lifelong love. He's a man obsessed with a soccer club,

FEVER PITCH

Directed by David Evans. Screenplay by Nick Hornby, from his own book. Hebrew title: *Ahava al haderek*. 105 minutes. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested. With Colin Firth, Ruth Gemmell, Luke Alrman, Mark Strong and Stephen Rea

Arsenal, and the film takes triangular shape as Sarah battles with the Gunners for Paul's lasting affections.

Can this die-hard fan have a life of his own and stay true to his team at the same time? Should Sarah, who cares nothing for soccer, agree to play second fiddle (a kind of wifely bench-warmer) to a gang of sweaty brutes in red and white who've never heard of Paul? The movie doesn't sugarcoat these questions. For all the casual pleasure it gives, *Fever Pitch* is far from a condescending puff piece about growing up, settling down and "getting over" one's devotion to a sport or particular team — or any old craze for that matter. Dotting the present-day setting with the "80s-'89 soccer season," with a series of flashbacks to Paul's childhood, when he found his calling as an Arsenal devotee, the picture evolves as a surprisingly wise and often quite cutting examination of what it means to feel passionate about something, anything, past the point of logic or good sense.

It's also a film about the ugly snags and startling wonders of learning to live as a couple, the compromises that usually entails,

alongside the entire new worlds it can open. For this relationship to work, it soon becomes clear, Paul is not the only one who will have to change. Sarah, too, must undergo a few basic constitutional alterations: first off, she'll need to learn to tolerate soccer.

The two seem an odd match from the outset. He's a burly, shaggy-haired guy, whose manner with his students is relaxed to a fault. (The fact that the name "Hemingway" appears misspelled on the board the first time we see Paul in his classroom seems pointed. Perennially distracted, he's liable to have scribbled an extra "m" while daydreaming about next week's big game.) As played with a mixture of easygoing charm and stubborn intensity by Firth (Mr. Darcy of the BBC's *Pride and Prejudice*), he seems a good teacher, but his heart's not really in it. The only time he really comes alive at school is when he's coaching the soccer team; then he lets himself scream and curse and jump up and down at a goal along with the kids, who clearly appreciate him because he acts like himself and shows real emotion around them.

Sarah, for her part, is a pretty bluestocking, new to the job and painfully upright around her pupils. Her pursed lips and primly folded arms just barely mask her fear of the children and the classroom, and Gemmell does a wonderful job of inhabiting this earnest young teacher's uneasy skin. Deep down, we can see, Sarah doesn't like her own rigidity. She'd love to be as friendly and laid back as Paul — not just in the classroom, but in all of life. She just can't bring herself to loosen up, and at one point she even fumes out loud that she's furious he manages to be so popular without trying. Although teaching is actually no more than a secondary, perhaps tertiary, concern here, *Fever Pitch* more keenly depicts its school setting than most films that take up education as their main subject. Indeed, much of what makes the film so effective is the exacting, almost anthropological attention to detail that director David Evans applies to every situation. Whether a scene takes place in school, at the soccer stadium, in bed or at an Indian restaurant, it feels true and in an easy, understated way.

Meanwhile, the real concern of *Fever Pitch* both is and isn't soccer. Hornby has adapted his own book for the screen and manages in the process to retain a crucial strain of comic self-deprecation about his hang-up alongside a totally earnest exploration of his alter ego's obsession with Arsenal. And while the movie focuses quite specifically on the exploits of one fanatic of the Highgate club, its implications



Paul's (Colin Firth) obsession with soccer extends to the Subbuteo version of the sport.

extend a good deal further. The movie is as much about a woman's disgust with her boyfriend's fixation as it is an ode to that fixation itself.

And by treating Paul's ferocious interest in his team as a happy sort of contagion, the filmmakers are able to make us care as well, and more deeply than we might expect. By the time the unabashedly euphoric ending rolls around, even a dyed-in-the-wool non-fan like me is rooting for

these people, and even Arsenal.

AND speaking of happy contagion: in Jerusalem, *Fever Pitch* is showing at the Lev Smadar, the only real movie house left in town — that is, the only non-mall, first-run cinema remaining, and the only one whose atmosphere isn't sprayed from an air-freshener can. I'd like to second the opinion expressed by Rachel Peretz and Dafna Baran in the local weekly *Kol Ha'ir* a few weeks back when

they warned of the inevitable demise of this important cultural institution if people don't start lining up to buy tickets, and now: at a recent early evening screening, midway through this film's opening week, the place was nearly empty, an ominous sign, and one that should give serious pause to anyone who cares about the movies and the future of this city as a liveable place.

On second thought, don't pause. Go see *Fever Pitch* there instead.

NEWS

of the muse

Jazz in Ra'anana

All This Jazz is the nicely cheeky name of a Ra'anana Symphonette concert conducted by US composer/conductor David Amram. It features two of his compositions and eight more premieres from local jazz musicians, all graduates of or connected with the Rimmon School of Jazz and Contemporary Music in Ramat Hasharon. The works include a medley from Ilan Mochiah, with Iris Portugali on drums, as well as Portugali singing in a work by Amikam Kimmelman, plus pianist Yaron Gottfried's composition for piano and orchestra. The concert is the first in a series of joint projects to be performed over the coming year. Amram has composed more than 100 works, including two operas. He started his career writing music for films including *The Manchurian Candidate*.

Helen Kaye

Three happy holidays in Haifa

Haifa is celebrating in a big way with its fourth annual month-long Holiday of Holidays dedicated to the religious festivals of the three faiths that manage to coexist in the port city. The event is organized by Beit Hagefen, Hanukkah, Christmas, and Ramadan will be marked by a huge art exhibition, liturgical concerts, parades, performances, crafts and food fairs, street theater and much more from today until January 15. The Sixty Horsepower + art exhibition at Haifa's Beit Hagefen Jewish-Arab Center is the month's inaugural event, with works by 60 artists from all parts of the country and sectors of the population. Believe it or not, the artists will also compete in a baking/cooking competition organized by the Dan Carmel Hotel. Other attractions include a folklore parade in Wadi Nisnas with a Santa Claus carnival, concerts in St. Luke's Church and other venues, as well as lots of encounters to further tolerance, pluralism and friendship.

Helen Kaye

The IPO is named our national orchestra

The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra is now officially the country's national orchestra. The IPO management sent a letter to Education, Culture and Arts Minister Zevulun Hammer, accepting the designation. Hammer conferred the title on the IPO to honor Israel's jubilee and in recognition of the orchestra's contribution to cultural life here and as the country's ambassador abroad. The minister said he will try to increase state funding but did not say whether he will accept music director Zubin Mehta's personal invitation to join the orchestra on one of its tours.

Helen Kaye

'Chambermaid of the Titanic' cleans up in Cairo

The French film *The Chambermaid of the Titanic* took top honors at the Cairo International Film Festival on Saturday night, winning the Golden Pyramid. The 1997 film won three awards: Best Film, Best Director, and best Screenplay. Egyptian Culture Minister Farouk presented the Golden Pyramid to the star of the film, Arnold Chevalier, as the prize-winning director, Bigas Luna of Spain, could not attend the ceremony.

The Best Actress award went to Reem el-Turki for her role in the French-Moroccan-Tunisian movie *Kiswat: The Missing Line*. The Slovenian actor Davor Yanic took the Best Actor prize for his role in *Stranger*. The \$29,500 prize for Best Arabic Film was awarded to two films — the Egyptian film *Harmonica* and *The Letter* from Morocco. Seventeen films from 15 countries competed for the annual awards. (AP)

Peterman catalog offers 'Titanic' props

The J. Peterman catalog — famous for its mini-dramas evoking turn-of-the-century adventures by globe-trotting sybarites and parodied into an icon in a series of *Seinfeld* episodes — is getting a step closer to the silver screen by offering props used in the filming of the motion picture *Titanic*, opening in the US this month. Among items used in the film are historically accurate ceramic dinner plates, silver-plated flatware marked with the White Star Line logo, stemmed goblets, indoor and deck chairs, RMS Titanic stationery, and a 70-cm-square, green-felt-topped replica of the pedestal mahogany game table with swing-out coasters that was used in the ship's smoking lounge. (The Washington Post)

The Hesperion EXXperience

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Close to 25 years ago, Spanish — that is, Catalan, to be precise — viola da gamba virtuoso Jordi Savall founded the early-music ensemble Hesperion XX. In its first season, the ensemble recorded two discs — one of Spanish music and the other of Andalusian melodies from Jewish, Christian and Moslem origins, which they have since been performing all over the world.

Now, some 100 CDs later, having performed literally thousands of concerts all over the world including three Israeli tours, Savall and Hesperion XX return to Israel to perform their Paradise Lost program featuring first and foremost, medieval Spanish music, the music that first captivated them.

Savall explains that "we love this music and we know it very well. We know the melodies as well as we know the traditional Catalan music. They are simple melodies which contain an intensity of expression. We do this program very often." Savall says there is much more than just music to this program. "I call this program Paradise Lost because the music we perform comes from an age in which Jews, Moslems and Christians lived in peace in Spain. It was like an idyllic paradise

which has long ceased to exist. This program shows that interrelations between cultures were much easier in the past than they are today, which is a real pity. The music we perform is not just great music, it is testimony to a great period in history, a period which unfortunately has long vanished." Savall adds that "although we come from a different musical background than the people of Israel, we show through music — which is the most universal language — that we understand their culture too."

Savall is well aware that it is impossible to know for sure how this medieval music actually sounded when it was first performed. "All these traditions were oral traditions and nothing was ever notated. This means that we can only guess. But even if the performance itself is not identical, the spirit and the essence of the music are undoubtedly the same."

Savall says that 25 years ago he could not have even dreamt that his ensemble would become one of the most sought-after musical groups in the world. But he stresses that there is a reason for that. "Our name says it all. 'Hesperion' comes from our culture, but the 'XX' means that we are people of today. Our aim is to make the music of the past understandable to the people of the present. That is why I believe in contemporary



Viola da gamba player Jordi Savall prefers 13th-century music.

music," he explains.

"For me, any music that is played today is contemporary, whether it was written last week or several centuries ago. We occasionally play music which was

written in our time, but very few contemporary composers write music for our so-called 'original' old instruments."

Although Savall occasionally plays Bach, Monteverdi and

Purcell, he admits that he has never played Vivaldi; he prefers the music of the 13th century. "This is what we like, and we are lucky that we can perform only what we love."

"One of the problems of today's symphony orchestras is that their members play music they do not like, in a way that other people tell them to. We play only what we like and how we like, and that makes a huge difference. The greatest danger for a musician is to turn into a bureaucrat. Unfortunately, this is what happens with many orchestras."

In Hesperion XX's upcoming Israeli concert Savall, his wife the sensational soprano Monserrat Figueras, and the other members of the ensemble will be joined by local oud player Yair Delli.

"I have heard his music but I have not met him yet. I'm sure we will find things to play together; after all, we come from similar musical backgrounds and our music derives from the same traditions. I'm sure it will be very exciting."

Hesperion XX with guest Yair Delli play this Thursday at the Noga Theater in Jaffa and Saturday at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem. They present a concert-lecture Wednesday evening at the Jerusalem Music Center.

The religious passions of 'The Righteous Virgin'

By HELEN KAYE

They came to call her "The Righteous Virgin." She helped people, they said, even if they had to come almost in secret because Hannah-Rachel, The Virgin of Lodmir, was an outcast.

The Virgin of Lodmir, by award-winning playwright Yosefa Even-Shoshan and directed by Jerusalem Khan artistic director, Ofira Henig, opens at the Khan Theater on Wednesday. The drama is based on the real-life story of Hannah-Rachel, an 18th-century Jewish woman of Lodmir in Poland, whose passion for Torah study led her to choose solitude from her community. She set up a Hassidic court in direct contraven-

tion of Halacha which forbids women the study of Torah and Talmud.

Even-Shoshan's play follows Hannah-Rachel (played by Gili Ben-Ussilo) from her repudiation of marriage and her fiancé on the eve of her wedding, to the establishment of her mostly female court and the inevitable conflict within the community, which perceives her as a threat and shuns her.

The passions behind Hannah-Rachel's decision to retreat from the world which nurtured her drew Even-Shoshan to her story. The patriarchal nature of Orthodox Judaism, she maintains, "teaches women to loathe their bodies, so in order to achieve the spirituality she feels is denied her,

Hannah-Rachel has to abandon the body."

"She pays a heavy price for what she thinks she wants," says actress Ben-Ussilo, who is reveling in the opportunity of playing a strong woman, after portraying a series of fragile, fate-tossed characters, such as Laura in *The Glass Menagerie* or the title role in *Princess Yvonne*.

"Hannah-Rachel doesn't want to rebel or cause anarchy. What she wants is marriage and Torah. Her realization that she cannot fulfill her vision pushes her to the decisions she makes."

"When she realizes she has made a mistake, she tries to correct it, only to make another mistake. The challenge for me as an actress is to connect to the religious world.

The Torah is life or death for Hannah-Rachel, not for me."

The Virgin of Lodmir is liable to upset some within the religious community because of its insistence that men and women are created spiritually equal, with equal privileges and obligations in the performance of halachic commands. The play rejects the perception in the Talmud and other sources of woman as a lesser and tainted being.

For director Henig, "the question is always one of interpretation. Human beings have interpreted what is written in the Torah, and that interpretation has always been according to the socio-political needs of the moment."

SEE IT IN HEBREW- HEAR IT IN ENGLISH!

MURDER

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The 'First Lady'

The tale of Sara Netanyahu, as reported by Friday's *Yediot Aharonot* in lurid detail, is both sad and disturbing. It is sad when a person becomes so insistent on being treated with respect that the effect is the opposite, and disturbing when one thinks of the hard-working people who have suffered from her abuse. The question is at what point the "First Lady's" unpleasant idiosyncrasies go beyond engendering sympathy for her husband to becoming a problem for the nation.

The stories in the *Yediot* report — of throwing shoes at an employee, of demanding large offices from a charity organization, of a bloated personal staff at government expense, of hoarding of gifts, and even of threatening the prime minister for letting himself be touched on the shoulder by a woman on national television — paint a picture of a small, mean-spirited and paranoid woman. Worse, the stories are not easily dismissed because they are not surprising. Similar stories have surrounded Sara Netanyahu since she entered the public eye, particularly since she became the prime minister's wife.

The Prime Minister's Office has responded to the report with the usual withering attack on the media, but with no specific denials. Further, a security investigation has reportedly been launched to track down whoever leaked all the damning information. These sorts of efforts amount to an illegitimate attempt to blame the messenger. Appeals to the right to personal privacy also only go so far when the subject is someone who so consciously works to keep herself in the public eye.

The fact is that Israel, as a society, is highly tolerant of the personal foibles of its leaders, not to mention their spouses. The American preoccupation with the personal morality of its presidential candidates seems to be waning there and, thankfully, has never taken root here.

Israelis, in choosing their leaders, do not look for someone who would make a good husband or son-in-law.

In such of climate of nonchalance toward interpersonal shortcomings, it takes a real pattern of nastiness to break through and become an issue of public curiosity. For this, Sara Netanyahu has no one to blame but herself.

As a public policy matter, however, it is a bit of a stretch to argue that Sara Netanyahu's unpleasantness is really a matter of significance on the national agenda. As far as has been reported, she has made no known attempt to carve out a role for herself in policy-making, as

Hillary Clinton did regarding America's health care system.

In this case, the concern would be that Sara Netanyahu is making the prime minister's job more difficult, and squandering the potential of the role of the prime minister's wife rather filling in with dignity. In addition, there is no reason why the overallocation of scarce personnel and space in the Prime Minister's Office and her abuse of their services should continue to be tolerated. It is not clear why, as Civil Service Commissioner Shmuel Hollander has suggested, this matter need be dealt with by legislation rather than in civil service regulations, but the idea of defining the bureaucratic aspects of the role is a good one.

No law or regulation, however, can infuse what is inherently a symbolic role with positive meaning. Each occupant of the position of prime minister's spouse must reinvent it in his or her own way, bringing his or her own personality to it. Paula Ben-Gurion was an outspoken figure who, like her husband, inspired both staunch admiration and a fair share of enemies. Aliza Begin shunned both pomp and publicity, and was quietly active on behalf of numerous charitable causes. Leah Rabin clearly had a strong sense of supporting her husband, but caused the downfall of his first administration over the illegal bank account scandal.

No one is expecting that Sara Netanyahu return to the model of previous generations, that of the unseen and unheard helpmate. A First Lady such as Eleanor Roosevelt, who pioneered in the more activist model way before her time, showed how it is possible to be in the glare of the public eye and be completely self-effacing at the same time.

It is no coincidence that Eleanor Roosevelt, perhaps the most internationally beloved First Lady of any democracy, also treated people with tremendous decency on the personal level. While Sara Netanyahu threatens her staff and prohibits them from calling her by her first name, Eleanor Roosevelt would always call her driver "Mr." and would prohibit her staff from doing any personal errands.

Though great leaders are not always decent people, it is much harder to be believed without being decent. Thus far, Sara Netanyahu's indecencies are mainly an embarrassment to herself and a missed opportunity to be a positive influence and role model. The danger is that, if there is no improvement, the fine lines between embarrassment, liability, and illegality will be crossed.

Wrong priorities

YOSEF GOELL

The issues of pensions, the public health service, social welfare and education, privatization and economic growth, growing unemployment in general and the future of the textile industry in particular, all involve complex questions. It is understandable that the various sides will seek to dramatize their point of view in order to win over public opinion.

Take the example of the health-care issue, on which the Knesset Finance Committee must decide by the end of this month in its vote on the Treasury's arrangements bill. The pro-public health forces scored a tactical victory last week when they succeeded in dramatizing the poignant cases of a young girl fighting cancer, and a teacher fighting AIDS. Both were threatened with denial of life-preserving but horrendously expensive medicines if Finance Minister Yaakov Ne'eman and his Treasury cohorts had their way.

These "villains," who are still licking their wounds from losing to the Histadrut, have been savvy enough to promise that the victims of these horrible afflictions will not be denied their medicines. The argument has boiled down to which budget will provide the NIS 150 million needed to pay for the 14 medicines which the Treasury has refused to include in the health basket: the Health Ministry's or the general budget?

The problem is that this too human drama is being used to divert public attention from the real issue: the future of the public health service and the NIS 1.3 billion deficit run up by the health funds, which must be covered if the service is to stay afloat. If this diversionary tactic is permitted to succeed, the cancer, AIDS and diabetes patients may get their medicines, but they and the rest of the country will be paying an average of NIS 1,000 per family more for health services — a ser-

vice which the system has previously committed itself to providing "free" in exchange for a lifetime of health-fee payments.

THE detailed issues may be complex but the basic confrontation is stark in its simplicity: it is between those who believe that Israel is a welfare state based, not so much on socialism but on a deeply embedded sense of national and social solidarity, which recognizes the "right" of its members to the delivery of health services within reasonable limits, and those who believe that Israel cannot afford to provide such services to the entire population and that therefore it should not be saddled with that obligation.

Translated from ideological terms into day-to-day pragmatic politics it is a question of priorities. Is the state's obligation to provide all its citizens with the best health service it can afford axiomatic, and the issue of how "efficiently" it is done, while important, secondary; or is the "efficiency" of the health funds the basic premise from which the level and extent of health service is to be derived?

Neeman and most of his top aides claim that there is simply not enough money in the budget to finance the level and scope of services, and their periodic updating, promised by the National Health Law.

Whether or not there is enough money is not a given but an expression of the Neeman-Netanyahu government's order of priorities. For example, none of them have raised the cry of "no money" in regard to the following:

*The transfer of hundreds of millions, and possibly over a billion, shekels to the financing of the unnecessary, and in many cases fictitious, growth in the number of draft-dodging parasites in the *haredi yeshivas*.

*The pouring out of hundreds

Dry Bones



of millions, and possibly billions, of shekels on enlarging settlements and paving roads in areas which will, in all likelihood, be ceded when the crunch comes in the next negotiating stages with the Palestinians.

*The allocating of NIS 180 m. to one of the biggest boondoggles in our history — this year's 50th anniversary celebrations.

*The sale of a large chunk of the government-owned Bank Hapoalim to Netanyahu's cronies at hundreds of millions, if not billions, below what the government paid for it when it bailed out the bankrupt banks in 1983.

*Permitting the highway robbery of Kibbutz Gil Yam raking in NIS 250m. (several million for each member) from the rezoning and sale for luxury housing of

lands which it does not own but only leases from the State Lands Authority.

In a country in which, even in a becalmed economy, the rich are visibly getting richer by the day, the first order of business should be raising taxes not cutting health services.

The complexities of the issues do deserve intense debate and study. But the order of priorities should be first for the Finance Committee to totally gut the arrangements bill before December 31, and then go on to debate the substantive issues of the government's attempt to celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary by undermining the very foundations of our social solidarity.

The writer comments on public affairs.

A new balance of power

EFRAIM INBAR

The emerging relationship, since 1991, between Israel and Turkey is one of the most important international developments in the Middle East. It brings together the two staunchest and strongest allies of the West in the region. After many years of preoccupation with the Soviet threat and its unsuccessful quest of becoming part of Europe, Turkey is paying greater attention to the Middle East, particularly to its radical neighbors Iran, Syria and Iraq. Moreover, following the collapse of the Soviet Union, Central Asia — a region of great interest to Turkey — has become part of a greater Middle East. Fortunately for Israel, there is a clear convergence of the two countries' national interests.

Both Israel and Turkey fear abandonment by the West, particularly in an international system where their contribution to contain Soviet expansionism is no longer needed. Israel seems to be in a better position than Turkey in Washington, but both are interested in strengthening their ties with the United States, which for various reasons is not sensitive enough to their security needs.

Washington placed an informal embargo on arms sales to Turkey and is inclined to pressure Israel to make territorial concessions dangerous to its national security. Moreover, a continuous American presence in the region is viewed as

beneficial in Jerusalem and Ankara, as it brings about stability in the region, and assists its two pro-Western and democratic allies.

Both countries wish to curb the influence of radical Islam emanating primarily from Iran. Islamic extremism calls for the destruction of Israel and threatens the secular nature of the Turkish polity. In addition, radical Islamists are attempting to destabilize pro-

their own experiences that agreements signed by the Syrian regime under President Hafez Assad are constantly violated, and are concerned that Israel might be lured into an agreement with Damascus, which would leave Syria free to cause greater mischief to Turkey. An Israeli-Turkish partnership, however, forces Assad into a more cautious and moderate posture.

Another common strategic inter-

domain to enhance the military capabilities of each side. Access to Turkish airspace, allows the Israel Air Force to train better, but also provides new routes to enemy territory. Turkey's proximity to the radical states enhances efforts to collect valuable intelligence.

In turn, Jerusalem can assist Ankara in upgrading its military forces with its technological and operational know-how. Israel is already retrofitting Turkish Phantoms and is ready to transfer other military technologies to the Turkish defense industries. It also sells a variety of military equipment. The Turks are interested in the antiballistic missile Arrow system and Merkava tanks.

This strategic partnership between the two countries is of tremendous importance because it creates a new balance of power in the Middle East. Israeli diplomatic efforts should be directed to buttressing the relations with Turkey at all levels, rather than engage in misguided efforts to placate Syria, or unimportant Arab players. The alliance with Turkey is also critical for progress in the peace process, which is predicated on a strong Israel.

The writer is associate professor of political studies at Bar-Ilan University and the director of its Begin-Sadat (BESA) Center for Strategic Studies.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NEW ISRAEL FUND

Sir, — David Weinberg ("Don't Misjudge US Jews," November 30) misrepresents the New Israel Fund when he describes our literature as "speaking of Israel with visceral revulsion." Anyone who knows anything about the New Israel Fund — a partnership of Israelis and overseas Jews — knows that we are deeply unshakably committed to the welfare of Israel and to the principles on which it was founded. That commitment takes the form of working, through grants to an extensive network of Israeli *amutot* and through our capacity-building center Shatil, to narrow the gap between those founding ideals and

the realities of today's society. What Weinberg apparently mistakes for "revulsion" towards Israel is NIF's outspoken opposition to growing manifestations of religious coercion and the denial of religious freedom to non-Orthodox Jews in Israel. The issue goes far beyond the important but narrow question of recognition of Conservative and Reform conversions. That is but the leading edge of a far deeper issue: What kind of country is Israel to be — a modern democracy with complete equality of rights for all citizens, or a theocracy in which the ultimate source of authority is religious rather than civil law?

If, as Weinberg observes, the Fund is doing "fabulously well," it is because many Jews who care deeply about Israel share our conviction that measures that seek to deny legitimacy to their religious beliefs and practices. Rather than turn their backs on Israel, they are supporting the New Israel Fund's efforts to ensure that the state lives up to the democratic ideals on which it is based. For these efforts, we make no apologies.

NORMAN S. ROSENBERG

Washington, DC.

NO TO FARRAKHAN

Sir, — The government of Israel must not allow Louis Farrakhan to enter Israel.

Farrakhan not only has a Libyan stamp in his passport, which would be enough to bar his entry — Farrakhan receives fees from Libya, a nation at war with the state of Israel. Israel also has strict laws that bar incitement to racial hatred, and Farrakhan's expressed racist attitudes to Jews and Israelis speak for themselves.

TZVI HONICKMAN

Tel Aviv.

DICTATING TERMS

Sir, — It was curious reading the other day in the December 1 issue of *Time* magazine Madeline Albright's argument addressed to the Russian delegate to the Geneva talks on the subject of UN inspection team in Iraq, where she is quoted to have said: "...the Iraqis lost the war. They cannot dictate terms to us..."

Would it be too much hutzpa to remind the secretary of state of the corollary? Namely, Israel and its

historic foes. There are several major differences. While America is a superpower, Israel is a tiny speck of real estate whose only sinful ambition is the will to assure its survival. And unlike the US, Israel has won six wars imposed on her over the last five decades.

RAYA GENSLER

Herzliya.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On December 15, 1932, *The Palestine Post* reported that Mr. Nahum Sokolow, the President of the Jewish Agency, visited Beer Tuvia where he praised the spirit of the settlers which imbued them to re-occupy the place laid waste in the 1929 disturbances.

50 years ago: On December 15, 1947, *The Palestine Post* reported that 14 Jews were killed and 10 wounded when troops of the Arab Legion opened fire at the occupants of two trucks forming part of a convoy bringing supplies to the Ben Shimon Children's Village near Ramle. All of Haifa and Haifa's Bay areas were paralyzed by the drastic house curfews.

In Jerusalem high tension continued. A child was killed and a man injured in Arab attacks on traffic in the Sheikh Jarrah quarter. An Arab attack on the Jewish Home for the Aged near Romema was repulsed and the attackers were driven back to Lifta. Another attack was repulsed at Ramat Rachel.

Jewish women detained at Bethlehem were reported to have threatened action unless they were transferred to the Jewish areas. Jewish residents were leaving Arab quarters. Arabs stole 400 rifles. Bren guns and Sten guns and ammunition from an Arab Auxiliary Police School near Ramle.

"More killing is not our aim, we are still taking a defensive action,

even if there are calls for a more aggressive attitude," the Hagana spokesman announced. Near Tiberias, for instance, the Hagana stopped an Arab bus, searched the passengers and disarmed a number of men.

25 years ago: On December 15, 1972, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that the Soviet Union continued to supply Syria with arms which so far had not been available to any other country.

The Khmer Republic (Cambodia) opened an embassy in Jerusalem.

The UN General Assembly had adopted a number of pro-Arab resolutions.

Alexander Zivelli

The case against prosecution

CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER

With every passing day, it becomes clear that the United States will be staying in Bosnia longer than President Clinton promised.

Or, to be precise, longer than his latest promise. He first promised to be out by December 1996. But 10 days after the 1996 presidential election — surprise! — Clinton announced a delay. We would really definitely be out, he said, by July 1998.

We won't. What we will do is, as is our custom, proclaim the great success of our expeditionary force, change its name and essentially leave it in place. It started as IFOR (implementation force). It then became SFOR (stabilization force). SFOR will surely be retired, too — and then remain in Bosnia, renamed.

My suggestion is BFOR, baby-sitting force. What is the new mission? No one really knows. We're hoping that something turns up that will allow us to leave without all hell breaking loose.

The Dayton accords, in whose name we are there, aimed for a confederated Bosnia composed of the three warring parties.

Everyone with an ounce of sense knows this is an impossible objective. But, not wanting to accept formal partition of the country, we persist. We stay and pray that none of our soldiers gets

killed while we police the truce.

It is not surprising that in this policy vacuum a bold new mission for the United States and NATO is being advanced, indeed, agitated for the arrest of war criminals. For months editorialists and activists have been denouncing the immorality of our standing around in Bosnia without apprehending its war criminals. This call for justice may be well-motivated, but it is deeply mistaken. Why? The best way to parse the issue is by analogy.

LOOK at those countries that have recently emerged from dictatorship to democracy. In Chile, El Salvador and South Africa, for example, the previous regimes clearly committed many crimes. Are the new democratic governments arresting and punishing these criminals, as in the de-Nazification of Germany or the hanging of war criminals in Japan after World War II?

No. They are instead establishing commissions of "Truth and Reconciliation." Their mission is to uncover, document and publicly expose every crime committed under the previous regime. But not — except only under the rarest circumstance, e.g., a torturer who refuses to testify even under grant

of immunity or a Winnie Mandela who testifies but disdains an offer of amnesty — to prosecute, to jail, to hang.

Are the authors of this policy immoral? No. They are wise. They recognize, as every moral person does, that full justice would be better than mere truth. But to carry out justice, you first need victory. We were able to arrest and prosecute the Nazi and Japanese war criminals because we won and forced them into unconditional surrender. But what do you do when there is no unconditional surrender?

What do you do in Chile and South Africa and El Salvador, where there is but a compromise between parties, none of which has been totally defeated? As Chile's Prof. Jose Zalaquett, author of the "truth commission" idea, has argued, in a still-fractured country, the pursuit of justice is an invitation to renewed war.

Amnesty is the condition for the very peace now enjoyed.

Reconciliation requires eschewing the kind of revenge — and yes, justice — that unconditional surrender permits.

Is this an immoral policy? On the contrary, the highest morality is to bring a peace that honors the future without sacrificing the past. The

homage to the past is truth, but the key to the future is reconciliation.

Now Bosnia. If the Serbs or the Croats had lost the war and surrendered unconditionally, there would be no question that we should be rounding up the war criminals, as we did after World War II, and shipping them off to their just fate. But the fact is that no one lost the war. All three parties are still armed; dangerous and at the ready. And those subject to arrest are the readiest of all to fight.

Under these circumstances, it is folly — not just dangerous but destabilizing — to pursue, and arrest war criminals. Sure, we could do it — if we went in and waged war until the Serbs and the Croats surrendered and disarmed and turned over their bad guys.

(And what do we do with the Bosnian Muslim war criminals?) That would be a logical and consistent policy. But let's be clear: It means war, war between us and them and a rekindling of the war among the Bosnians.

Who's for that? If you are not, you cannot urge turning our forces in Bosnia into a bailiff for the international court at the Hague. It may assuage the conscience of armchair moralists living 4,500 miles away, but it will kill a lot of people on the ground.

(Washington Post Writers Group)

Clashing Over Education's One True Faith

By JACQUES STEINBERG

Listening to the discussion of education reform, is like walking into an ice cream parlor that says it serves only vanilla and chocolate — with no hope of swirling them together. Whatever the subject, educators and parents are presented with stark, politicized choices that are often uncomplicated.

by the realities of the classroom.

A decade ago, for example, California, which has the largest public-school population in the country, was one of the first states to embrace the whole language approach to reading, which encourages students to use contextual clues like illustrations to understand sentences. Then last year, in an action that closely paralleled the recent decision on math, Gov. Pete Wilson and the Legislature encouraged districts to drop whole language, blaming it for low literacy rates, and established financial incentives for districts to emphasize old-fashioned phonics.

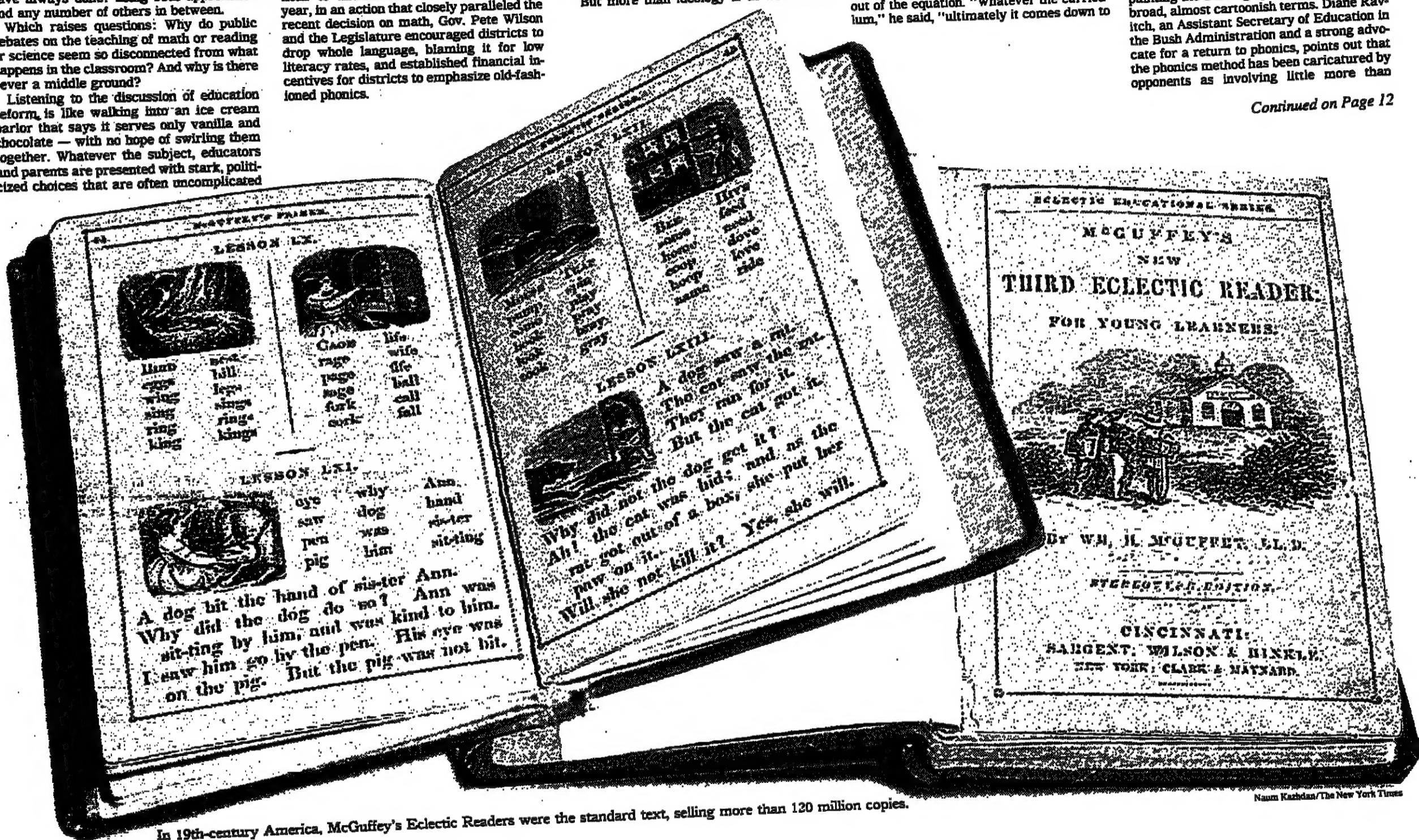
But more than ideology is at work. The

Any attempt to 'dictate a solution is doomed, said Nathan Tarcov, a political scientist and chairman of the Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago, because it leaves a fundamental variable out of the equation. "Whatever the curriculum," he said, "ultimately it comes down to

Volumes three through six of McGuffey's Reader, first published in 1836.

The challenges of influencing the teaching process, though, have not dissuaded school board members and policy thinkers from painting the existing options for teachers in broad, almost cartoonish terms. Diane Ravitch, an Assistant Secretary of Education in the Bush Administration and a strong advocate for a return to phonics, points out that the phonics method has been caricatured by opponents as involving little more than

Continued on Page 12



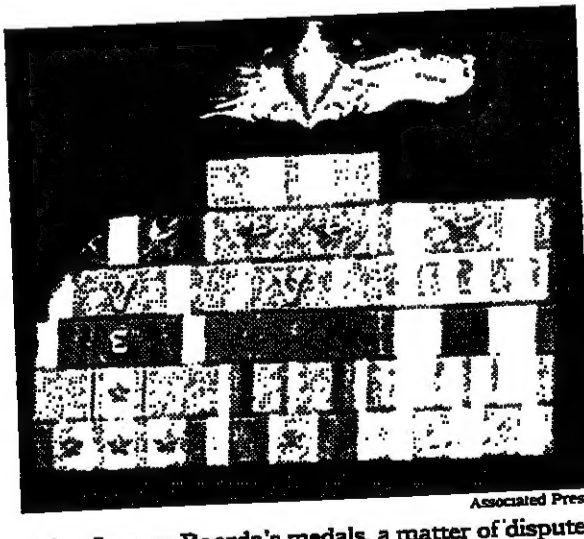
In 19th-century America, McGuffey's Eclectic Readers were the standard text, selling more than 120 million copies.

Cheating Hearts and Lying Résumés

BY DAN BARRY

His widow, given the humbling task last week of disinterring her husband's remains from soil reserved for true heroes and heroines, might take comfort in knowing that Mr. Lawrence joins the already-crowded ranks of the particularly brazen: those people, diplomats and data-entry clerks alike, who have practiced the time-honored deception of résumé embellishment. It is rather common, experts say, and can be surprisingly successful. But when a self-aggrandizing lie rises from the past to haunt its author, it can cut at the knees, raising again the glaring question of why so many

How about James Ware? A Federal district judge in California, he recently acknowledged that the inspirational story he told about a brother murdered in 1963 — was in the Birmingham family name — then asked President Clinton for a higher judicial appointment. He can only say, "I used my tenno-



Adm. Jeremy Boorda's medals, a matter of dispute.

Those who recreate their pasts rarely give adequate explanations for doing so, leaving the public to imagine that deep work. Some are doomed to early on; for others, there's an wherein a fabricated past more painful one.

Checking It Twice

The dozens of verification services that have cropped up are engaging in something more than cat-and-mouse games, as employers become more concerned about workplace violence and liability for employees' actions. Chris Cavallo, vice president of Record Search Inc. in Hollywood, Fla., has a cautionary tale: "Three years ago a client was going to hire someone to be a security guard, and we found out the guy was wanted for manslaughter in another state."

The security officer was arrested at his would-be

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By Steven Lee Myers

By Douglas Jehl

**By David E.
Rosenbaum**

By Timothy L.
O'Brien

The World

Nuclear Priesthood Gets a New Credo

By STEVEN LEE MYERS

BACK in the cold war, some of the greatest minds of Washington pondered how best to use nuclear weapons to destroy much of the world. With theological gravity, they dreamed up concepts like "controlled escalation" and "mutually assured destruction," a doctrine that came to be known simply as MAD.

They were called (unflatteringly) the "nuclear priesthood," the corps of strategists in and around the Pentagon and the National Security Council who actually contemplated waging nuclear war. Theirs was the arcane, euphemistic world of "single integrated operational plans." What they were really talking about was Armageddon.

Now the Clinton Administration has rewritten the nation's guidelines for using nuclear weapons. And the changes, which leaked out last week despite a cloak of secrecy, showed that the thinking about nuclear weapons — and the priesthood —

has changed as much as the world itself.

Under the new guidelines, the Pentagon has officially abandoned the cold war tenet that it must be prepared to fight, and win, a protracted, all-out nuclear war. Instead, the military will focus its strategy (not to mention its super-secret list of potential targets) on deterring attacks on the United States and its allies carried out not just by nuclear-armed nations but those with also chemical and biological ones as well.

No One Wins

The guidelines — quietly signed by President Clinton just before Thanksgiving — do not mean the Pentagon is going to now point the nation's nuclear weapons at countries like Iraq or Libya. Instead, the guidelines will become the basis for the Pentagon's annual exercise in drawing up options for using nuclear weapons in a whole range of potential conflicts.

In rewriting the rules, Mr. Clinton's aides said they were simply adjusting to fundamental shifts in power since the collapse of the Soviet Union and subsequent sharp reductions in nuclear warheads. But they also said the changes acknowledged what many had long believed despite official doctrine: If it ever came to all-out nuclear war, no one could really win. The old priests, the Administration was saying in so many words, had gotten it wrong.

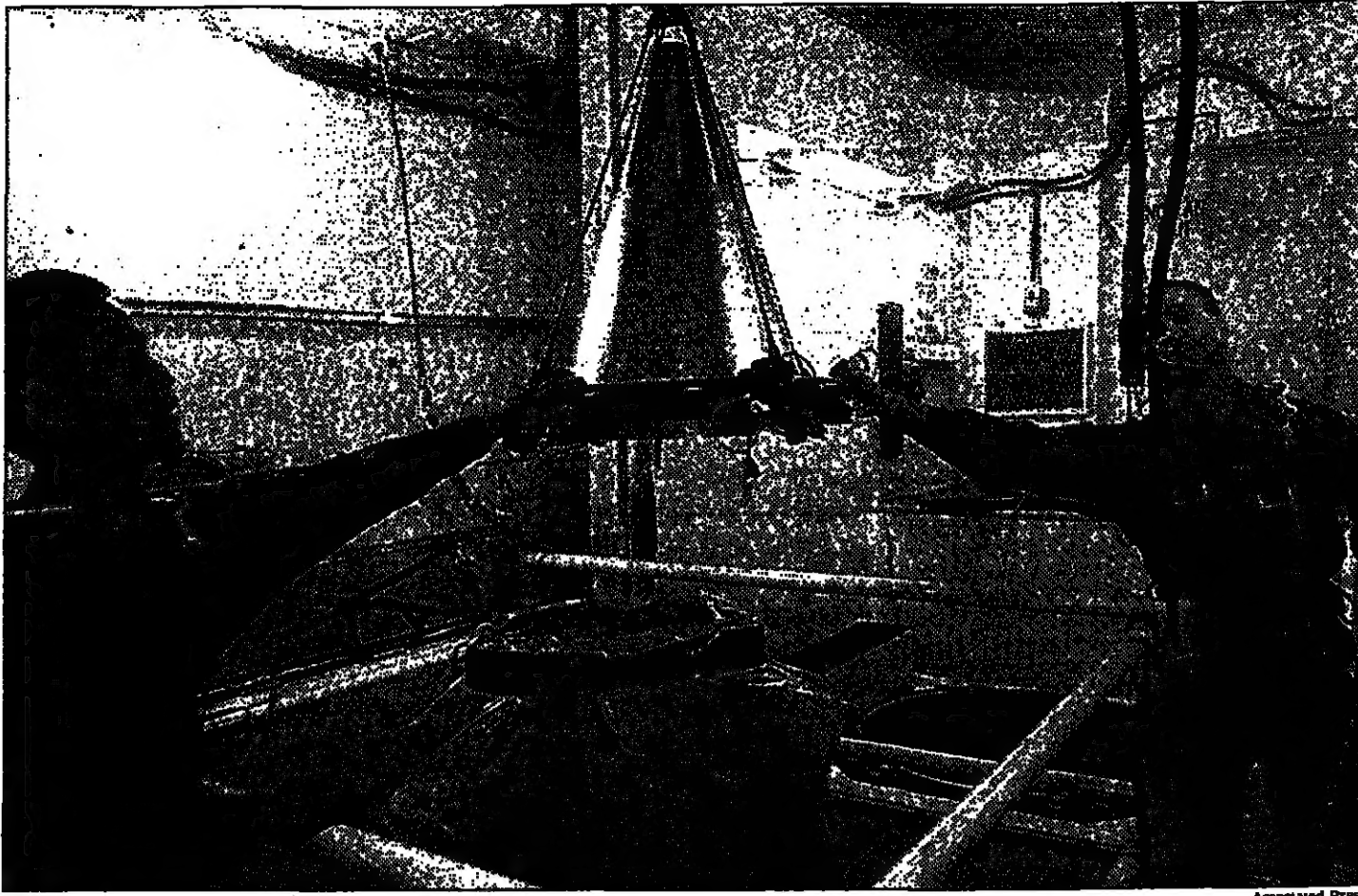
"The cold war was a period in which we had these massive nuclear stockpiles pointed at each other and we talked about protracted nuclear war and we talked about prevailing," said Gen. Eugene E. Habiger, commander of the United States Strategic Command near Omaha. "There's a more realistic approach now."

But if the new guidelines jettisoned Alice in Wonderland scenarios for fighting on, even as every American and Russian city vanished in radioactive clouds of dust, they have also raised a host of new questions that are as mind-twisting as the old ones:

Is it possible to have deterrence with a smaller nuclear force in a far less orderly world? If the threat of nuclear annihilation kept the Soviets from starting World War III, will it stop today's rogue regimes from launching a terrorist strike?



Nuclear-prepared in Wyoming.



The world's changed; so has American nuclear strategy: Airmen attach a warhead to a Minuteman III missile in a Nebraska silo.

"If there's an irrational actor," said Franklin C. Miller, principal deputy to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy and Threat Reduction, "you may not be able to deter the irrational actor."

From the beginning, the nuclear priesthood has always been an arcane, mysterious calling.

In the Pentagon and in think tanks like the Rand Corporation, men like Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, Robert S. McNamara, Paul H. Nitze and Herman Kahn wrestled not only with questions of war and peace but also with details of technology. The debate was so ponderous and detailed that it was considered beyond the minds of ordinary people.

The end of the cold war has radically changed it. Deterrence the Evil Empire has evolved into deterring some unforeseen enemy. Instead of abstractions about the end of the world, the focus today is on arms control, "de-targeting" missiles (even though they can be quickly re-targeted) and other efforts to build trust among former enemies.

Robert G. Bell, the President's senior director for defense policy and arms control at the National Security Council, said that by the end of the cold war, nuclear strategy had entered "the realm of the hypothetical." Since then, the need for deterrence from an

immediate threat has evolved into a more general hedge against instability. And that has changed the nature of the priesthood, a term that he, like others involved in nuclear strategy, abhors.

General Habiger — the modern-day successor to the nation's first strategic commander, the flamboyant, cigar-chewing, doomsday-talking Gen. Curtis E. LeMay — today devotes much of his time to exchanging visits with his Russian counterparts, in an effort to safeguard what's left of the Soviet nuclear arsenal. And while steel-nerved specialists still work round the clock in an underground command center beneath General Habiger's headquarters at Offutt Air Force Base, ever ready to launch a nuclear strike if ordered, the atmosphere is more evocative of corporate insurance than "Dr. Strangelove."

'More Realistic'

Mr. Bell said the point of rewriting the guidelines, which replace those put in place by President Reagan in 1981, was not to forswear the use of nuclear weapons but to make the doctrine "more understandable and more realistic — to the extent that anything in this area can be realistic."

While the guidelines shift the focus more to potential enemies with chemical or biological weapons, Mr. Miller said the core strategy remained the same: to dissuade an enemy from attacking by putting at risk whatever that enemy holds dear.

"Whether it was a Soviet leader or is today a rogue state, you have to spend a lot of time understanding what makes these people tick," Mr. Miller said. "What is it that they value most highly? And then you have to say, 'This is what we're going to do to you if you cross a particular line.'"

The new guidelines, not unexpectedly, have already drawn criticism. Advocates for arms control said the nuclear powers still had too many warheads that could be too easily launched — either by accident or malevolent design. The critics say the new guidelines show that the nuclear priesthood is simply searching for a new raison d'être.

Michael Krepon, president of the Henry L. Stimson Center, a research institute in Washington, said that despite the guidelines, nuclear strategists have not caught up to changing reality.

"I look at the nuclear priesthood as islands," he said. "The water temperature around these islands is changing, and the islands are becoming more isolated."

Persian Gulf

Iran's Venture in Image Rehab

By DOUGLAS JEHL

IT was a kind of coming-out party, with all eyes focused on Iran as it stepped forward after nearly two decades mostly shrouded from world view. What guests glimpsed at an international Islamic conference here was in some ways infuriatingly contradictory: a poised, gracious Iran eager to leave a good impression, but one also still burning with old resentments.

But then, ever since its rebirth in the 1979 revolution, Iran has been a far more complex creature than the one depicted in Western snapshots of fiery mullahs, subservient women and legions of martyrs. And if the gathering in Teheran last week was hardly an acknowledgment that the old view had been altogether mistaken, the huge turnout suggested a willingness to entertain the hope that Iran's coming of age may bring with it more maturity. Those looking for moderation could find evidence, or not.

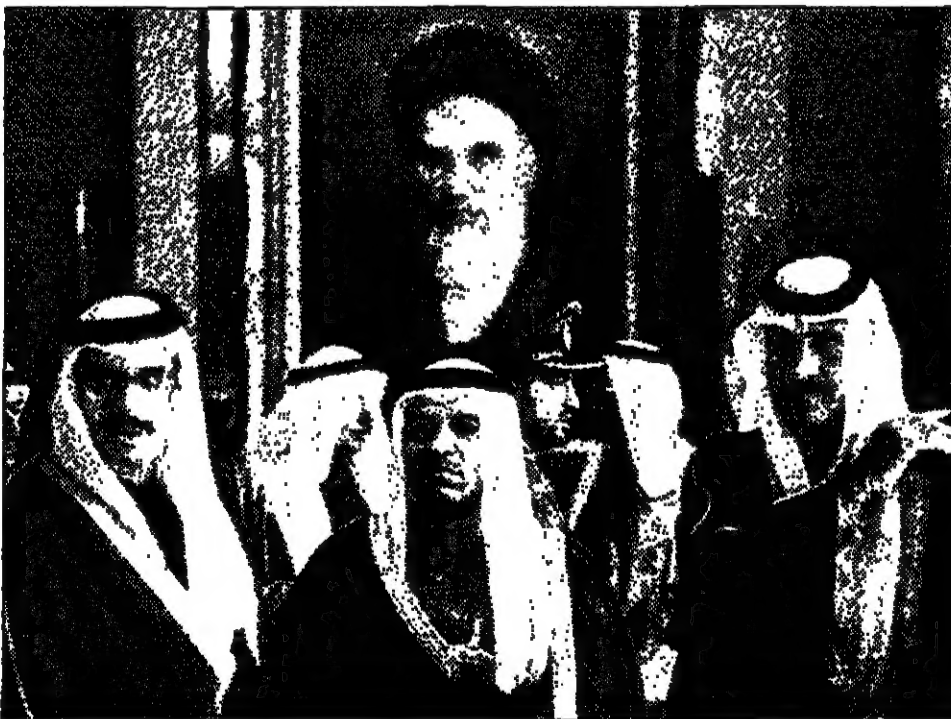
There was the inaugural address by Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, heir to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini as the steward of revolution, with the usual tirade against Western influence. But then came more conciliatory remarks by the new President, Mohammed Khatami, whose calls for opening Iran to the outside world have given voice to a very different dimension of Iranian political thought. And while reiterating its opposition to the United States' policies toward Israel and military role in the Persian Gulf, Iran did not push those views on others, acting more statesmanlike than revolutionary.

The Dissident

Washington, of course, was not invited; had it been, it would have stayed away. Alone in the world, the United States remains intent on isolating Iran, regularly denouncing the clerical regime in terms that probably rank it second to Iraq in American demonology. But some of the symbolism on display in Teheran seemed to underscore a spreading view that Iran is not only too important to ignore, but is also perhaps a country with which others can do business.

From Saudi Arabia, which has shunned Iran as a most undesirable neighbor: a drapery from the door of the Holy Kaaba of Mecca — a remarkable gift from the capital of Sunni Muslim orthodoxy to the rival Shiite Muslim regime that remains the world's only Islamic republic.

President Suleyman Demirel of Turkey, another ally of the West, exchanged embraces with Iranian clerics who regularly criticized his government for its secular orientation and its military ties with Israel. Even Foreign Minister Amr Moussa of Egypt — on his visit to a city that has a street named after the militant Muslim Egyptian who assassinated President Anwar el-Sadat — said the gathering had produced "some kind of improvement in ties" between his country and Iran.



Conflict of interests: Saudi delegates at the Islamic conference, with a portrait of Ayatollah Khomeini.



A boy and his toy, a helicopter that was on display in a public park in central Teheran last week.

Iran, for its part, has silenced its calls for an export of the Islamic revolution that toppled the Shah and sent shock waves across the Middle East. Mr. Khatami's stunning victory last May over a candidate supported by the religious establishment showed how far democracy has come. And while Ayatollah Khamenei is still the supreme leader in what remains a mullahcracy, the support that 69 percent of Iranians gave to Mr. Khatami shows the urbane face of those who never felt a kinship with the radical clerics.

"For the first time, we can see Iran as not just black or white, but as complex and more refined," a diplomat here said. "I'm not saying they are angels, but this is not a one-man dictatorship, like Saddam's in Iraq."

One question still difficult if not impossible to answer is whether overtures like those on display last week encourage moderation or

coddle the worst elements in Iran. American views have veered from one extreme to the other, with little success on either end of the spectrum. The effort to reach out to Iran reached its most absurd and embarrassing proportion with the secret arrival in 1986 of the Bible- and cake-bearing mission led by Robert McFarlane, President Reagan's national security adviser, to which Iranian officials turned their backs. Since then, Washington's pattern has been to turn its own back on Iran until it forswears, for one thing, its support for violent opponents of a broader Middle East peace.

Iran, in turn, has said the economic sanctions imposed by the United States leave no grounds for any overture at all. But among its neighbors, Iran has begun to extend olive branches. It has played a restrained role in trying to mediate conflicts in countries like

Afghanistan and Tajikistan, while working hard to promote warmer relations with American allies like Saudi Arabia and Egypt, which until recently had followed the United States in regarding Iran as something akin to the devil incarnate.

It was the dividends of those efforts that were evident here last week as Iran took the reins for the next three years of the 55-member Organization of the Islamic Conference. Not only was the international gathering the largest to be held in Teheran since the revolution, but it far eclipsed in size and prominence an American-sponsored gathering in Qatar less than a month earlier, which was marred by an Arab boycott in protest of Israel's participation.

Still Skeptical

Misgivings within the Sunni-dominated Islamic world of Iran's Shiite regime still run so deep that few if any of those who attended were doing so to demonstrate wholehearted support for Iran's domestic and internal policies. Many were motivated first by obligations to an Islamic organization they hope can wield increasing weight, and perhaps second by a curiosity about Mr. Khatami, a man who had been unknown to many of them. Tiny oil-rich monarchies like Kuwait and Bahrain that have embraced American military protection remained skeptical of their giant neighbor's claims that it has no hostile intentions. "There are a lot of lookers but no buyers," a European diplomat said.

But in taking a fresh look at Iran, with its 60 million people, vast territory and considerable resources, the guests saw an Iran that, at least on the surface, had taken great pains to present a post-revolutionary face.

In the lobby of the former Intercontinental hotel, which was nationalized after the revolution, a mosaic that read "Down With the U.S.A." was removed, after 18 years, during a pre-conference renovation. In its place, computers offered direct, high-speed links to the World Wide Web. In guest rooms, televisions offered satellite programming, still officially against the law in the rest of Teheran. And while Ayatollah Khamenei's speech featured a fierce condemnation of Western civilization and what he called its gluttony, carnality and greed, Mr. Khatami, by contrast, quickly pronounced himself in favor of "the establishment of dialogues" to achieve "deep-rooted understanding of the cultural and moral dimensions of other societies."

That was enough for the State Department to declare that the United States, too, would "welcome and support the idea of an open dialogue between different cultures and civilizations." But in Teheran, many foreign residents and visitors said they believed that both sides could benefit by being less oblique.

"It is an open question whether these hints of moderation are tactical or strategic," a European diplomat said. "But it is incumbent on everyone, including the United States, to watch closely and listen."

Cheating Hearts

Continued From Page 9

place of employment. But for every close call of today, there are dozens of what-ifs from yesterday. If, for example, The Washington Post had known that Janet Cooke was lying about her Vassar College credentials, the editors wouldn't have hired her, let alone published her concocted Pulitzer Prize-winning story about a child heroin addict that now stands as one of the most damaging frauds in American journalism.

The publishers of Marquis "Who's Who in America" learned long ago of the pitfalls in believing every accomplishment in the 100,000 entries it prints annually. The editors seek to verify only the most outlandish claims; for the rest, the book contains an appeal to readers to report errors or apparent fabrications.

Paul Canning, senior managing director, explained the how of "Who's Who": "If at some point it comes to our attention that we published false information, then we either remove the false information or make the determination to remove the biography entirely, because they've created a breach of trust with us. It happens a number of times a year, but it doesn't happen daily."

The State Department would certainly agree, and is reviewing its background procedures after failing to catch the fairly clear discrepancy in Mr. Lawrence's life story.

Although the public may scorn, even pity the multimillionaire ambassador, it tends to celebrate those con artists and film-flamers whose deceptions bring no harm, whose lies dishonor no war dead. Few begrudge a small-time pool hustler called New York Fats the chance to cash in on a popular movie by rechristening himself Minnesota Fats. Fewer still reviled Ferdinand Waldo DeMara Jr., the overweight, unassuming man who inspired a 1960 movie called "The Great Impostor."

Mr. DeMara, who died in 1982 at the age of 60, borrowed other people's names and credentials to experience life at its fullest. He actually got jobs as an assistant warden at a Texas prison, a dean of philosophy at a Pennsylvania college, a teacher in a Maine village. Perhaps his most daring exploit came during the Korean War, when he posed for several months as a surgeon on a Canadian destroyer, suturing wounds and performing minor operations.

In the end, the difference between that impostor and the ambassador is sweetly ironic: only the impostor's memories of wartime service aboard a ship were true.

The Nation



Doing the two-step: Clinton and Gore at a Rose Garden press conference this fall.

Clinton Can Now Sing, 'Me and My Shadow President'

By RICHARD L. BERKE

VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE swept into the international talks on global warming here last week and, with a bit of drama, added a passage to his speech that was not in the prepared text. He told the delegates from about 160 nations that after conferring with President Clinton by telephone, he was instructing the American delegation "to show increased negotiating flexibility."

The oratory was hardly soaring — Mr. Gore's usually isn't — but with those words, the Vice President helped break an impasse in the talks. And although he invoked the President's name, Mr. Gore later made it clear that adding the critical passage was his idea.

"It was primarily influenced by my assessment of the state of play here," he said. "I then consulted with President Clinton back in the White House and added the paragraph that you're referring to."

In other words, it was pretty much Al Gore calling the shots — another confirmation that the early portrayals of Hillary Rodham Clinton as a "co-President" are no longer accurate. Mr. Gore comes closer to filling that role, and now his portfolio is expanding.

With Mr. Clinton now running for nothing but his place in history, and wearying of some of the starkly political duties he once enjoyed, he is increasingly turning to Mr. Gore, the man who could help insure the Clinton legacy, as his stand-in. Never one for the funeral fare of past Vice Presidents, Mr. Gore is taking on big roles with gusto as he carefully, but surely, steps forth as a contender for the Democratic Presidential nomination in 2000.

On the Team

"It seems weekly there are illustrations of the Vice President taking on greater roles, more visible projects that clearly enhance his position," said Senator Thomas A. Daschle of South Dakota, the Democratic leader. "They put him in a strong position to be perceived as heir apparent."

Indeed, Mr. Gore's high-profile assignments — from debating Ross Perot on free trade early in the Clinton Administration, to landmark telecommunications legislation in 1996, to meetings with leaders in Moscow and Beijing just this year — have given Americans ample opportunity to grow accustomed to him as an engaged leader, one perhaps even worthy of their trust and future votes. "He bought into the team —

he's part of it now," said Roy Neel, a longtime aide and confidant to Mr. Clinton, former deputy chief of staff for Mr. Clinton. "He's not going to walk away from it."

Which, of course, could be a problem for Mr. Gore. There are perils to being inextricably tethered to a President as shaken by controversy as Mr. Clinton.

Consider the inquiries into the Administration's fund-raising practices that knocked Mr. Gore's carefully planned political agenda off stride this year. Though he has perhaps regained momentum after Attorney General Janet Reno's refusal to seek an independent inquiry into his fund-raising calls, the Vice President's vulnerability is clear. It has often seemed as if Mr. Gore — and not the President — was the favored target of Republicans. Why bag a lame duck when you can weaken the guy who wants his job?

Mr. Gore again could have been a target here in Kyoto, particularly since he was the highest-ranking leader to attend — if only for a day — and because his credentials on environmental issues are such that Mr. Clinton takes his cues on global warming

has developed between him and the President since the two baby-boom Southerners formed their ticket in the 1992 Presidential campaign. They have weekly private lunches, and their rapport carries over into a high degree of integration between their staffs.

White House Boosters

In fact, there is something of a shadow Gore Administration in place already: many of Mr. Clinton's senior aides first worked for Mr. Gore, and have a stake in seeing the Vice President win the office himself in 2000. And in the Cabinet, Andrew Cuomo, the Housing Secretary, and William Daley, the Transportation Secretary, are particularly close to the Vice President. (When he departed Kyoto, Mr. Gore left behind a protégé and important player in the talks, Katie McGinty, chairwoman of the Council on Environmental Quality.)

The White House's drive to help Mr. Gore is intensifying, as was evident after a recent speech by Representative Richard A. Gephardt, the House minority leader, who is angling to run for the Democratic nomination in 2000.

Speaking at Harvard University, Mr. Gephardt offered a sharp critique of the Clinton-Gore agenda, though he did not mention either the President or Vice President by name. The response was swift: Rahm Emanuel, a senior White House aide, publicly castigated Mr. Gephardt for his "flip-flops on multiple issues." It was a surprising break from the tradition of White House officials staying neutral in nomination battles within their own party.

Knowing One's Place

As he has assumed more Presidential roles, Mr. Gore has taken care not to behave too much like a President. His success thus far has come because he has been careful not to upstage Mr. Clinton.

"Al Gore has all the qualities of being a very strong leader," said Richard W. Riley, the Secretary of Education. "But he's the Vice President. He's not trying to be the President as Vice President. That's why they get along so well together."

And as much as Mr. Clinton wants a President Al Gore to complete his legacy, the current President also wants it known that he has not finished burnishing it himself.

Insisting he was as engaged as ever, Mr. Clinton said in a recent interview in the Oval Office that "there will be a lot going on next year."

"And there will be a lot going on in '99," he added. "And a lot going on in 2000."

The Clinton and Gore staffs are integrated, and poised for 2000.

from Mr. Gore.

In the sort of balancing act that will occupy him for the next three years, the Vice President sought to satisfy environmentalists who are the heart of Democratic Party's traditional liberal base as well as the more moderate business interests who helped elect Mr. Clinton in the first place.

In this case, the balancing act may have worked. While the global-warming accord reached here won the unqualified praise of few — and it faces a daunting battle for ratification in the Senate — Mr. Gore was widely credited by participants for at least helping to keep the negotiations alive.

It was the kind of performance that Mr. Gore's loyalists say should help convince people that he deserves the top job.

"For the first time in history we have a Vice President who can step into the role of President literally on a moment's notice without missing a beat," Mr. Neel said, "and with the world understanding it would be a seamless handoff."

Mr. Gore's role grows out of the working relationship, and genuine friendship, that

Talking to Congress

The Witness Is Shocked and Appalled

By DAVID E. ROSENBAUM

EXPLAINING last week to the House committee investigating campaign finance matters why she had decided not to ask for the appointment of a special prosecutor, Attorney General Janet Reno declared: "My only guiding star is my desire to follow every lead, to find the truth and to apply the law the right way. I don't care where the facts lead, because I'm going to follow them as far as and wherever they go."

On paper, such sentiments may seem platitudinous. In the hearing room, they sounded so schmalzy that some reporters snickered and several Congressmen sighed in exasperation.

On Screen

But in Congressional hearings, the reality that counts is on television. With the tight shot showing Ms. Reno's eyes steady and her jaw clenched, her words sounded heartfelt, even profound. On television, she appeared to be defending her honor against browbeating inquisitors.

Ms. Reno had proved again her mastery of the technique of taking such a moral high ground under interrogation that questions can be ducked with impunity and the questioners made to look like bullies.

This approach, which others appearing before Congressional committees are increasingly adopting, serves more than its short-term purpose of allowing witnesses to avoid answering embarrassing questions. In the longer term, it bolsters the public's unfavorable view of Congress.

The latest New York Times/CBS News poll, in which more than 1,000 adults were questioned by telephone last weekend, found that only one-third approved of the way Congress is handling its job. More than half said that the Congressional campaign finance investigations were primarily a partisan attempt by President Clinton's political opponents to wound him.

There are many reasons why the public holds these views. And the failure of the Congressional inquiries this year to shed much new light on campaign finance matters had several causes — among them, the refusal of key witnesses to appear, the malleable nature of the campaign laws and the tendency of senators and representatives to make political speeches rather than ask questions.

divulging their confidential advice. "I am not going to discuss who advised me," she said. "I think it is important that they be able to talk freely and openly with me because the decision is mine."

The more aggressive the questions became, the worse Ms. Reno made the interrogators look. For instance, Representative John L. Mica, Republican of Florida, suggested that the Attorney General could be held in contempt of Congress for refusing to give Congress any portions of a memorandum from Louis J. Freeh, the director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, that had advocated a special prosecutor.

Without directly addressing the question of memorandums, Ms. Reno responded: "Well, I just think it would be very, very wrong for Congress to become part of a prosecution and an investigation. It would politicize investigations. It would politicize the prosecution process. I think that's wrong."

Mr. Freeh spoke in the same vein. Asked

A technique dating at least to Lillian Hellman is now more polished than ever.

whether the Justice Department had interfered with his investigation, he asserted: "I call the shots as I see them. My job is not to please anyone in this town at the expense of what I see as my duty."

Of course, Ms. Reno and Mr. Freeh are not the first witnesses at a Congressional investigation to find firm footing by delivering lines that could have been taken directly from the script of a melodrama.

A Tear in His Eye

A decade ago, Lieut. Col. Oliver L. North won a national following for telling the committees investigating the Iran-contra affair, "I came here to tell you the truth — the good, the bad and the ugly." He had broken the law and arranged for money and arms to go to the right-wing rebels in Nicaragua, Colonel North said, a tear in his eye and a catch in his voice, because he had been "the only person left" who could help them.

Going back 45 years, Lillian Hellman, the playwright, gained more national acclaim than she had ever earned from her plays for refusing to cooperate with the communist-hunting inquiry of the House Committee on Un-American Activities and declaring, "I cannot and will not cut my conscience to fit this year's fashions."

But lawyers who often represent witnesses before Congressional committees say that the technique is much more prevalent now than it used to be. One such lawyer, who insisted on not being identified, said he had his clients rehearse lines that would make them appear aggrieved and the questioners bombastic.

"I tell them to keep in mind that they are addressing the television audience, not the senators," the lawyer said. "If some senator wants to lecture them, I say all the better. It makes the senator look pompous, it makes my client look put-upon and it uses up all the time for questions."

Some politicians are aware of what is going on, but they are not sure what to do about it.

"People are used to getting their politics on Hollywood screens," said Senator Robert F. Bennett of Utah, a Republican member of the Senate committee that investigated campaign finance. "Then they see someone like Reno, and it sounds real to them."



Attorney General Janet Reno, under questioning on Capitol Hill Tuesday.

The Nation

Giving Credit Where Debt Is Due

By TIMOTHY L. O'BRIEN

AS Frank Capra's mid-century holiday movie classic, "It's a Wonderful Life," crowds its way onto television screens, feel free to snicker at the moment when a desperate George Bailey screams at his negligent uncle for misplacing bank funds and threatening to plunge the family into debt.

"Where's that money?" he shouts. "Do you realize what this means? It means bankruptcy and scandal and prison!"

Scandal? Prison? How quaint, America, safe haven of the highly leveraged citizen and the highly leveraged corporation, is now home to the highly leveraged citizen. Debt is very, very cool.

Sub-Prime

Right now, consumers are firmly into debt overdrive as they pursue the annual rite of the holiday spending binge. Americans have even bestowed an affectionate new term on their credit cards: "mall money." That mall money is liberating, too. A recent survey of 1,000 consumers by the American Bankers Association found that two-thirds had no holiday spending plan, even though they typically end up taking about six months to pay off holiday debt. And these are not poor people. The same survey found that among those who were late with credit card payments, 44 percent earned more than \$50,000 a year, while only 4 percent earned less than \$15,000.

American consumers are carrying about \$1.2 trillion in installment credit, up about 50 percent from just four years ago, and the average credit card holder has four cards and about \$4,000 in high-interest debt. Nonetheless, lenders have begun to target the least creditworthy and most unsophisticated debtors-to-be, dubbing them "sub-prime" borrowers. Loan delinquencies are on the rise and personal bankruptcies continue to soar.

But hey, why worry? Even bankruptcy doesn't stop the solicitations from lenders.

Banks, which once upon a time emphasized savings and thrift, are now relentless marketers of debt — or credit, to use the sanitized term favored by lenders. Billions of credit card solicitations compete for space in

American mailboxes each year, with Banc One, MBNA, Citicorp, and Chase Manhattan jointly accounting for more than half of the volume.

Mortgages can be had for 125 percent of a house's market value, quite a repudiation of banks' traditional hesitation to lend no more than 80 percent against a home. Since late October, Fleet Financial Group has mailed more than one million blank checks in denominations ranging from \$3,000 to \$10,000, inviting borrowers to use the checks to pay taxes or "spruce up your home."

"What debt is doing is that it anesthetizes the purchasing process," said Stephen M. Pollan, a financial adviser and author of a new book, "Die Broke" (Harper Business). "Debt may be O.K. for a house or a car or an education, but for anything else you're an idiot. For a bottle of champagne or a new wardrobe you're going to go into debt? It's just instant gratification, a short-lived burst of fun, and it's not smart."

Debt is not the stigma it was for the generation that came of age during the Great Depression and World War II. So when did things change?

Cultural milestones are never easy to mark, but when it comes to consumer debt, Fresno, Calif., in September 1958 offers a likely one. Bank of America targeted Fresno for the first mass mailing of credit cards, as detailed by Joseph Nocera in "A Piece of the Action: How the Middle Class Joined the Money Class" (Simon & Schuster, 1994). Some 60,000 credit cards flooded the mailboxes of Fresno. A little more than a year later, two million credit cards were circulating around California.

"There had been no outward yearning among the residents of Fresno for such a device, nor even the dimmest awareness that such a thing was in the works," Mr. Nocera wrote. "Here began the trickle of what we now call financial products, aimed largely at the middle class, that would become, by the 1980's, an avalanche."

Still, in the 1960's most borrowers paid off their

credit card balances monthly, as an aversion to financial risk born in the Depression held sway. It would take another decade and the arrival of runaway inflation to bring consumer debt into the mainstream.

"Credit cards were the enablers but inflation was the trigger," Mr. Nocera said in an interview. "People in the late 1970's started recognizing that it made sense to go into debt because of inflation."

America's trouble with debt is nothing new. After all, Georgia was founded as a debtors' colony, and Thomas Jefferson died a debtor after a lifetime of buying binges that would have made Imelda Marcos blush.

But for many years it was only an elite few like Jefferson who could take on inordinate debt as consumers. Farmers and other debtors largely borrowed in order to produce something. Puritans and Quakers regarded excessive personal debt as a sin, views that were widely and firmly held until relatively recently. In the 1800's, the end of the year did not entail holiday shopping sprees but was a time to pay off debts to begin the new year with a clean slate and a clean conscience.

"Debt was a horror in the 19th century," said Robert Sobel, a financial historian at Hofstra University. "Mortgages were much shorter in the 19th century, only about 10 years. Burning the mortgage was a big family event. Nowadays, people don't even think of mortgages as debt."

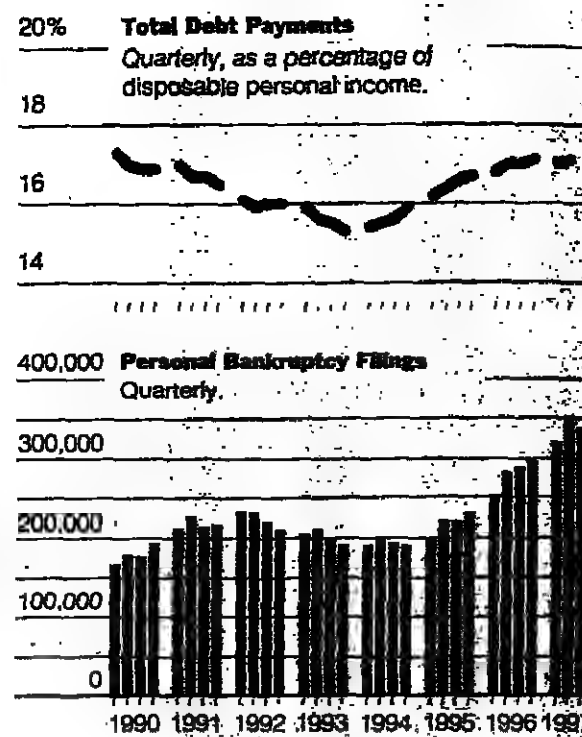
Of course, there weren't VCR's, Timberlands or Gap jeans to covet in the 19th and early 20th centuries. But once the emotional shock of the Depression subsided and the post-World War II consumer boom occurred, Americans were primed to take a new look at debt. All they needed were credit cards and a nudge from those burgeoning inflation rates.

Treading Water

Now the costs are adding up. The consumer debt spigot has been wide open for the past five years and some borrowers are beginning to tread water, despite the robust economy. Several credit card companies, including such rapidly growing issuers as Advanta, have taken a financial beating after coaxing risky borrowers with low introductory teaser rates. Charge-offs for bad credit card debt have risen sharply this year at Advanta and

Lending Spree

As the stock market sets new highs, and inflation becomes a foggy memory, Americans are taking on more debt. But more are faltering under the burden.



other big credit card issuers. And if the economy slows significantly, America's penchant for debt may take an even uglier turn.

"People think about money in a certain way until a cataclysm arrives that forces them to change," said Mr. Nocera, who added that it will probably take a sharp downturn in the economy before people think it wise to lighten their debt loads.

If this makes you queasy, just turn off "It's a Wonderful Life" and tune in the Lifetime cable channel. There, every weeknight, you'll find a game show called "Debt," which gives contestants the opportunity to win enough money to rid themselves of personal debt — uh, credit.

Battling Over Education's True Faith

Continued From Page 9

"drill sheets and making funny sounds." Students in phonics classes now learn the sounds that letters make using children's literature, she said, just as they might in a whole language class. Phonics' newest incarnation represents "a middle ground," she said.

But ask Dr. Ravitch if whole language, to which she is fiercely opposed, has also been caricatured, and she says, "The caricature of whole language is, I think, closer to the reality, that kids are supposed to guess the words in context rather than sound them out."

Which is not entirely accurate, says Kenneth Goodman, a professor in the department of language, reading and culture at the University of Arizona at Tucson and one of the pioneers of the whole language movement. "My view is that you cannot read an alphabetic language without using and learning phonics," Dr. Goodman said.

But why has that part of whole language been lost in the larger discussion? "Whole language has been demonized because you have to have good guys and bad guys," he said. "You have to have one right program."

Academia has been loath to resolve such clashes, says Jerome T. Murphy, the dean of the Harvard Graduate School of Education, because academics in education schools and those in math and science often view each other with distrust. "You get stereotypes," he said. "The scientists have their heads in the clouds and don't care about kids. That's a fallacy. But the other stereotype, that 'all teacher educators are interested in is process,' is false, too." The contributions of both are essential to writing a good curriculum, he said.

Combining the Possible

In seeking to draft standards in science for the California board's consideration, an independent commission turned down an offer of free assistance from three Nobel laureates in science and voted to award a contract to a group of science teachers, education professors and working scientists affiliated with the California State College at San Bernardino. Faced with a backlash, the commission voted to rescind the award and revisit its decision.

The attempt to establish math standards has been no less contentious. In August, the standards commission approved a document recommending an eclectic approach to teaching math in kindergarten through the 12th grade. For traditionalists, there was an emphasis on basic skills and many mathematical concepts to be mastered. For reformers, there was a premium on students explaining how they arrived at their answers and dozens of word problems relating math to life outside the classroom.

But last Thursday, the 17-member Board of Education, which is appointed by Governor Wilson, a conservative Republican, rewrote the draft, dropping all the word problems. The board also decided against recommendations to integrate advanced mathematics throughout the middle and high school grades, outlining a traditional course of two years of algebra, a year of geometry and a year of trigonometry.

In a nod to the reformers, though, the board wrote that it was not endorsing a particular approach and that "many other combinations of these advanced subjects into courses are possible."

For teachers like Ana England, a sixth-grade math teacher in Watsonville, Calif., little is expected to change. Ms. England says she already teaches fundamental tasks like calculating the surface area and volume of a three-dimensional figure. But she does it nontraditionally, breaking her class into teams to solve word problems and explain the answers to each other.

"I've looked at the standards," Ms. England said, "and the things the board has crossed out are words like 'analyze' and 'explain your thinking.' But there's nothing in the standards that says you can't teach that. A good teacher is going to do that, in addition to teaching basic skills."

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ECONOMY

She's Wound Up in Her Career; He's Ready to Wind Down

By LOUIS UCHITELLE

AFTER a career as a salesman, Ruth Cambron's husband retired, and she thought she might, too. She took a leave from her job as a health care specialist in California, and the couple traveled on cruise ships. "That convinced me not to retire," Mrs. Cambron said. "I did not want to feel useless." She also wanted to build her pension. And 12 years later, at 73, she still draws a paycheck — a stalwart in the growing ranks of older women who continue to work after their husbands stop.

Sandra Kaul, an art gallery director and consultant, is just entering those ranks. Her husband, lured by the offer of a sweetened pension, retired in June at 58, after 30 years as a college art professor in Minnesota. "I encouraged him," said Ms. Kaul, who is 55. "I knew he really wanted to stay home and paint, while I have a career to pursue."

Helena Genovese, 63, stays at her job out of both necessity and desire. Her husband, a professional hypnotist, now 68, retired seven years ago, worried that if he did not ease up he might suffer a fatal heart attack, as a friend had. But his \$350 in monthly retirement benefits, mostly from Social Security, is insufficient to maintain the couple's suburban life style without Ms. Genovese's \$1,900-a-month salary as a manager of the

parking facility at Buffalo's airport.

"Besides, what would I do all day at home?" she asked. "He plays with the dog, builds model planes and visits our children. I think that if two people are home together constantly, they could end up killing each other."

Having distinguished themselves as the first generation to leave the house to work in large numbers, women in their late 50's and early 60's are now in retirement range. If they are single, divorced or widowed, they often keep working, surveys show, because they lack the Social Security credits or pension savings of men their age, who earned more and worked more years. But in growing numbers, married women in this age group are also staying on the job — breaking with the practice of sharing their husbands' retirement.

Surveys are just beginning to catch the shift and the reasons for it. A big one is the promise of an independent pension to avoid the poverty that often comes to widows who rely on their husbands' benefits. Social Security, the main ingredient in most cases, is cut after a husband's death.

"Older women keep working to secure their economic survival," said Heidi Hartmann, director of the Institute for Women's Policy Research in Washington.

What is more, the extra income earned by the women helps maintain family living standards, particularly if a husband has been pushed out of

the labor force before he had planned to retire. And there is what Mathew Greenwald, a market researcher who polls people on retirement issues, calls the sociability aspect.

"Building friendships on the job is often more important to women than it is to men," he said. "Women may want to go on working to maintain these friendships. They find the idea of being retired more isolating than men do."

Whatever the reasons, women's persistence in working could have broad implications for the economy. It could, for example, relieve some of the financial pressure on the Social Security system, which will be stretched thin when the baby boomers retire.

The statistical evidence is still sparse, but the shift appears to apply mainly to those 55 to 64 and not to those 65 and older. The number of working men and women in that older group has traditionally been relatively small, although it has crept up slightly for both sexes in the 1990's.

The University of Michigan, which is tracking people in their 50's and 60's in a federally financed study that is just beginning to produce data, found that of 813 married women whose husbands had retired, 45 percent still worked, most of them full time. "These are serious workers, not just women doing real estate," said Marjorie Honig, a Hunter College economist who helped tabulate the results.

Labor Department surveys also suggest that married women are working in increasing numbers after their husbands stop, or at least that married women aged 55 to 64 are staying in the labor force in rising percentages while men are not. Nearly 3.5 million women in this group were in the labor force last year, or 48.6 percent of all married women 55 to 64, up from 41.3 percent in 1989 and 38.3 percent in 1980. But the percentage of married men in that age group in the labor force has fallen to 70.2 percent, from 75.4 percent in 1980.

"Women are beginning to realize that by working just a few more years, they become eligible for good pensions," said Olivia Mitchell, a labor economist at the University of Pennsylvania. "The benefit of those few extra years can be quite high."

MS. GENOVESE, who took a salaried job in 1980 when the youngest of her four children was 13, came to exactly that conclusion. "If I work three more years, I'll be eligible for a pension of \$1,000 a month," she said. She made it clear that if her health held up, she would work indefinitely, qualifying for an even bigger pension. Her job also provides the couple's health insurance.

Many other women are also working for bigger pensions. The Social Security Administration projects that if current trends continue, by 2015 nearly 80 percent of married women will be entitled to higher pensions upon retirement than the

The Rewards of Working a Little Longer

A few extra years of work can substantially increase a woman's monthly Social Security benefits. For example, a woman who started working in 1981 at age 45 and is earning \$30,000 annually at the time she retires could double her benefit by working to age 70.

If she retires at 62 in January 1998, her benefit would be ...

\$535 a month

If she retires at 65 in January 2001 ...

\$733

If she retires at 70 in January 2006 ...

\$1,102

In today's dollars.

Source: Social Security Administration

As more women keep working longer, a growing percentage, as shown below, will collect higher Social Security benefits from their own account than by relying on spousal benefits from their husband's account.

RETIREMENT YEAR GENERATION

1995 EARLY DEPRESSION

33%

2000 LATE DEPRESSION

44%

2005 WORLD WAR II

48%

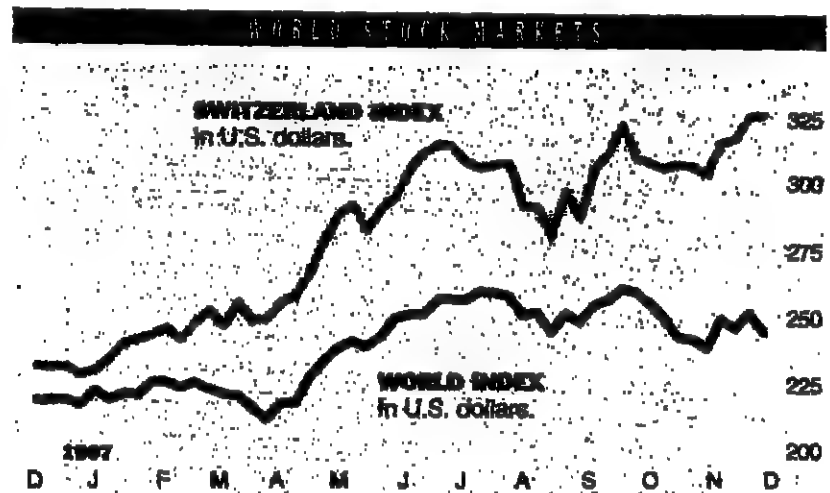
2010 EARLY BABY BOOM

54%

2015 LATE BABY BOOM

59%

The New York Times



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the Financial Times/Standard & Poor's Aquarius World Index, a measure of stock market performance. The FT indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's, in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries.

PERFORMANCE		IN U.S. DOLLARS				IN LOCAL CURRENCY			
Country	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.
Australia	192.68	-3.7	19	-13.2	19	193.45	4.1		
Austria	187.95	-1.1	7	-1.0	18	173.15	13.9		
Belgium	252.52	-1.8	10	10.9	14	227.92	27.8		
Brazil	212.90	-9.7	26	12.2	11	437.39	20.6		
Britain	327.53	-2.0	12	15.7	10	293.93	19.8		
Canada	212.88	-0.8	6	12.1	12	219.03	16.2		
Denmark	437.47	1.2	1	24.3	5	401.85	42.3		
Finland	274.50	-7.0	22	11.7	13	307.91	29.8		
France	230.12	-1.8	11	7.5	17	214.38	22.8		
Germany	224.69	-1.7	9	18.3	9	207.13	36.1		
Hong Kong	352.22	-8.6	25	-30.5	23	350.45	-30.4		
Indonesia	65.36	-30.4	28	-71.4	26	33.24	-39.1		
Ireland	403.49	0.7	2	22.7	6	388.37	41.9		
Italy	110.50	-0.7	5	32.4	3	143.38	51.2		
Japan	96.32	-3.1	14	-25.4	22	100	-18.2		
Malaysia	168.55	-6.6	21	-72.1	27	294	-57.8		
Mexico	1,870.56	-3.2	16	37.0	2	1,813.36	42.0		
Netherlands	402.56	-2.4	13	19.8	8	367.12	38.3		
New Zealand	79.38	-3.7	17	-13.5	20	4.37	2.5		
Norway	326.92	-0.2	4	10.6	15	322.45	25.9		
Philippines	81.94	-8.2	24	-59.8	25	154.96	-41.9		
Singapore	238.40	-7.4	23	-43.2	24	182.21	-32.7		
South Africa	252.72	-3.7	18	-20.6	21	270.17	-17.0		
Spain	268.79	-1.3	8	22.3	7	305.41	41.0		
Sweden	465.77	-4.0	20	10.4	16	535.34	25.5		
Switzerland	332.24	-0.1	3	39.3	1	295.39	48.7		
Thailand	20.85	-14.0	27	-78.2	28	7.89	-61.8		
United States	388.40	-3.2	15	28.7	4	388.40	28.7		

COMPOSITE INDICES		Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank
Europe	283.20	-1.7	18	18.2	2.41
Pacific Basin	106.51	-4.0	28	-28.4	1.88
Europe/Pacific	180.21	-2.5	14	2.16	154.98
World	249.62	-2.9	11	11.3	1.88

Sources: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close. © 1996 The Financial Times Ltd., Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's.

EXCHANGE RATES		Friday	Last Friday	Week % Chg.	Year Ago
Japanese yen to the U.S. dollar		130.45	130.20	+0.19	113.90
German mark to the U.S. dollar		1.7753	1.7630	-0.43	1.5573
Canadian dollar to the U.S. dollar		1.4206	1.4238	-0.22	1.3637
U.S. dollars to the British pound		1.6496	1.6573	-0.46	1.6557

Source: Bloomberg Financial Markets, exchange rates as of Friday's New York close.



Women like Ruth Cambron, 73, of Sacramento, Calif. are choosing to continue their careers for years after their husbands have retired.

spousal benefit they would receive under their husbands' Social Security. That would be up from 33 percent today. And 20 percent of the women will qualify for pensions that are higher than those of their husbands, up from less than 10 percent today.

But there is a caveat about projecting the trend forward. What Ms. Cambron, Ms. Kaul and Ms. Genovese share with many older married women is this: They took jobs and began careers relatively late in life after raising children or at least staying home until their children were in junior high school. Younger women, on the other hand, are far more likely to have careers that parallel those of their husbands. Once they reach retirement age, husband and wife, having gone through the same career cycles, may think alike about retirement.

"The question is, will these younger people prod each other to stay on the job or will they prod each other to retire," said Angela O'Rand, a Duke University sociologist and retirement specialist.

For now, however, older husbands and wives are increasingly going in separate directions.

Six months after her husband retired, Ms. Kaul is in high career, having entered the work force only 14 years ago, once her two children became teenagers. She is even expanding her domain, looking into using retail stores as small, makeshift art galleries for Minnesota painters. Actually, her work as the art gallery director at Bemidji State University, 100 miles north of Minneapolis, where her husband, Marlin, had

taught for 30 years, is a part-time job. But Ms. Kaul has five part-time jobs, most of them as a paid consultant to various art councils and art projects in Minnesota.

"I am in the process of proposing to the university a larger position for myself," she said. "It will probably be three-quarters time. I am suggesting that we start a museum program, to manage art collections and curate them for traveling exhibitions."

Still, the Kauls do not have to rely on her income. Marlin Kaul's sweetened pension — a lump-sum payment and \$40,000 a year — is enough for them to live comfortably. The \$15,000 she brings home helps, of course, but her decision to keep working separates the Kauls from three couples who are their friends. The men, also professors at Bemidji, accepted sweetened pensions, too, and their wives have decided to retire with them. All three women had worked much longer than Ms. Kaul.

"Two of them were in teaching careers," Ms. Kaul said, "and they no longer like their jobs enough to keep doing them anymore now that their husbands are retiring."

The decision also swings the other way. And when it does, a wife who continues to work sometimes ends up on Rosalind Barnett's couch. Ms. Barnett, a psychologist and senior researcher in women's issues at Brandeis University and Radcliffe College, recounts one patient's story:

"Her husband, a lawyer who never liked what he did, lived for the day he could move to the woods in New Hampshire, and this was a nightmare for her," Ms. Barnett said. "She was the director of a nonprofit organization, involved in work and community life, with a big network of people around her, and he wanted to retire to a rural life style."

In the end, the husband did not retire.

"He cut back his hours," Ms. Barnett said, "but he is still working as a lawyer. He is very unhappy."

EVEN husbands who support their wives' decisions to keep working can take awhile to get there, as Dominic Genovese did.

He had never cooked, and for five years after he retired he stayed out of the kitchen, which meant that his wife could not relax until she had prepared dinner. "The stress for me did not end with the job," she said. And the dinner hour became later and later. "That ticked me off," Mr. Genovese said. "But cooking is something I did not think of doing. I made the bed; that took only a few minutes. And I vacuumed; I did not want to be home with dog's hair around."

A life-threatening stomach ailment changed his attitude toward cooking, he said — as did the fact that the couple's three adult sons

cook. He now makes dinner four nights a week.

Howard Aronoff, 57, of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., also cooks. His mother had taught him, and in retirement, he took over that task from his wife, although she still does the grocery shopping. Unlike Mr. Genovese, Mr. Aronoff did not willingly retire: he took a buyout in 1993 from I.B.M., where he was a senior planner, rather than risk being laid off without any payment. After briefly trying a new career as an insurance salesman, "I drifted into retirement," Mr. Aronoff said. "When people found out I was no longer at I.B.M., they looked on me as a piece of dead wood."

Her husband's changed status scared his wife, Roberta, who is 53. His earnings suddenly deflated from more than \$80,000 a year to a \$35,000 pension even as the couple, who were nearly finished paying for their two children's undergraduate education, were counting on the next five years to save for retirement. So she has continued in her nearly \$30,000-a-year job as the manager of a dental office, a position she had held for a decade.

"You have to sit down and work out the money issues," she said. "My husband did that. He showed me, with spreadsheets, how we would get by, and that eased my mind. He found a way even to save a little."

The new budget meant belt-tightening. They bought a new car for her, for example, but he still drives a 1988 model. And their daughter, now at Harvard Law School, pays her own way.

Sometimes a husband chooses retirement because changes at work suddenly make the job much more difficult. William Cambron found himself in this situation in 1985, when he was 62. For years, he had been a salesman for a wholesale company that offered a line of toasters and household wares to hardware stores. As those stores lost out to big discounters like Sam's Club, the Walmart unit, Mr. Cambron had to travel farther from the couple's home in Sacramento.

"They kept widening their territory as the market dwindled, and he was tired," Ms. Cambron said. And so he stopped.

When her husband retired, Ms. Cambron, a year younger, was only a decade into a career as a health care specialist in the California Department for the Aging. That job paid her \$50,000 a year when she retired two years ago and shifted to a job monitoring nursing homes for a nonprofit organization, earning just \$7,000 but working far fewer hours. Being older than 70, she is permitted to draw her full Social Security and a California state pension. They total \$37,000, exceeding her husband's retirement payments by \$7,000, even as she still draws a paycheck.

"I would not be well off," she said, "if I had not continued working."

UPS AND DOWNS

Dec. 8-12: The Asian Crisis Continues, as the Dow Drops 3.8% in Five Days of Declines

Sources: Bank Rate Monitor, Bloomberg Financial Markets, The Bond Buyer, DataStream, Goldman, Sachs, IBC's Money Fund Report, Merrill Lynch, Standard & Poor's, Ryan Ltd.

PRICES

DOMESTIC EQUITIES

Broad market	Down 3.09%
S & P 500 index	953.39
Blue chips	Down 3.81%
Dow 30 industrials	7,838.3
Small capitalization	Down 3.52%
Russell 2000 index	422.63

DOMESTIC BONDS

Treasuries	Up 1.02%
Ryan Labs. Total Return	212.94
Municipals	Up 0.92%
Bond Buyer index	123.69
Corporates	Up 1.08%
Merrill Lynch Master index	934.62

AROUND THE WORLD

European stocks	Down 1.73%
F.T.-Actuaries Europe	283.20
Asian stocks	Down 4.02%
F.T.-Actuaries Pacific Basin	106.51
Gold	Down 1.96%
New York cash price	\$284.80

Foreign indexes are given in dollar terms

YIELDS

BONDS

Long bonds	5.92%
30-year Treasuries	Down 16 basis pts
Notes	5.59%
2-year Treasuries	Down 19 basis pts
Municipals	5.26%
Bond Buyer index	Down 7 basis pts

100 basis points = 1 percentage point

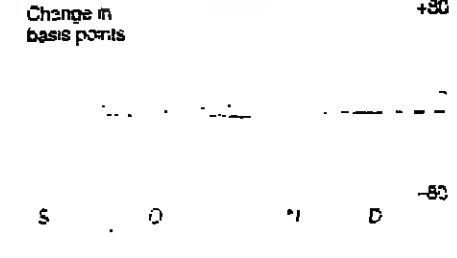
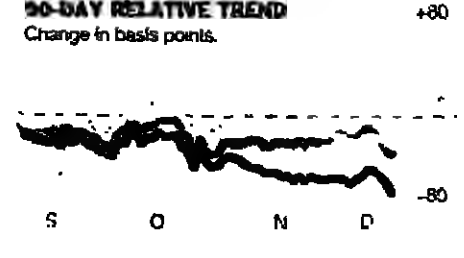
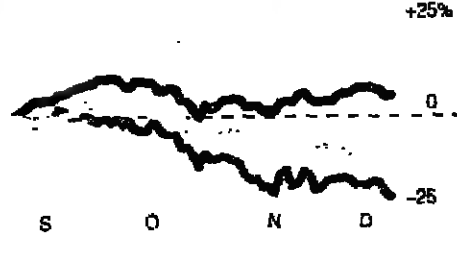
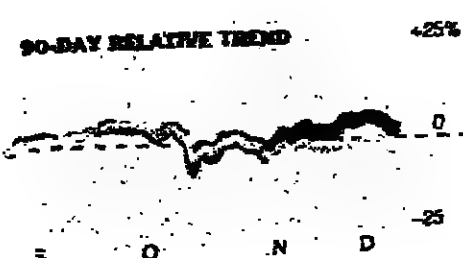
90-DAY RELATIVE TREND

Change in basis points

OTHER INVESTMENTS

Money market funds	5.06%
Taxable average	Down 3 basis pts
Bank C.D.'s	5.18%
1-year small savers	Unchanged
Stocks	1.63%
S & P 500 dividend yield	Up 5 b p

Change in basis points



The New York Times

Founded in 1851

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The Germ Warfare Threat

Though the crisis over Iraq's biological weapons has eased for the moment, Americans should not be complacent about the dangers of germ warfare. The threat that a lethal bacterium or toxin might be used on the battlefield or in a terrorist attack is real. The United States, from the Pentagon to local police departments, is not yet adequately prepared to deal with the danger.

It is relatively easy and inexpensive to produce biological agents like anthrax or plague, and not hard to conceal them. All it takes is a pharmaceutical plant, or a brewery. Many of the world's rogue regimes, including those in Iraq, Iran, Syria, Libya and North Korea, are working on such weapons, as are terrorist groups.

For aggression-minded countries or terrorists, biological weapons can seem an appealing way to offset America's overwhelming nuclear, conventional and economic power. No hostile country has yet perfected reliable means of delivering these weapons to the United States and known incidents of biological terrorism have been rare. Still, a determined country could launch a biological attack on its neighbors using missiles, artillery or aircraft mounted with spraying tanks. Terrorists could use trucks or aerosol canisters or target vulnerable food supplies. Washington and local governments across America still have much to learn about preventing or coping with such an attack.

An international convention bans the development, production, transfer and stockpiling of biological weapons. Unfortunately, the agreement lacks reliable verification or enforcement provisions, a problem the Clinton Administration is now trying to fix. But even that will not stop countries like Iraq from pursuing programs in secret, using home-grown ingredients and shutting international inspectors out of sensitive locations.

The Clinton Administration's efforts to prepare for a biological attack have been spotty, with the Federal Emergency Management Agency poorly engaged but the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Centers for Disease Control providing some helpful assistance. The Pentagon, which has done more research and spending on biological protection than any other agency, needs to do a better job of sharing its expertise and equipment with local civilian authorities. In response to pressure last year from Senators Sam Nunn, Richard Lugar and Pete Domenici, it has now begun to do so.

Most consequences of biological weapons are treatable if detected and diagnosed quickly. That requires training in recognizing unusual symptoms under intense stress. New York, Washington, Atlanta and Indianapolis have begun serious preparations for responding to biological terrorism. Most other American cities have not.

An expert panel meets regularly with New York officials to identify needs. Outside trainers provided by the Pentagon have prepared 4,000 city police, fire and emergency workers to teach coworkers how to respond to biological attacks. New York also involves hotels, transit agencies, private security firms and hospital emergency rooms in its preparations and has plans for obtaining vaccines against common biological agents. Though New York is acquiring some field kits used by American military forces to detect and identify biological agents, the Pentagon has declined to provide the most sensitive models.

New York's program is one of America's most advanced. But even it needs improvement and fuller Federal cooperation. With the use of biological and chemical weapons more likely than nuclear attack, all levels of government must work harder to protect Americans from the terrifying dangers.

Yellowstone and the Winter Ahead

Winter weather has barely come to Yellowstone yet. There is only a foot of snow in the town of West Yellowstone, where the fly-fishing shops are hoping for a dry season and the snowmobilers are hoping for a deep one. Late autumn is a time of migration in Yellowstone. Brown trout move out of Hebgen Lake and up into the Madison River. Perhaps half the park's 38,000 elk remain in Yellowstone all winter, but as snow accumulates the rest of the herds begin to drift their separate directions in search of food and favorite calving grounds. This fall there has been so little snow and so much grazing in Yellowstone that the elk have just begun to move. The animals are fat and healthy.

What the cold season will bring is anyone's guess. The weather in Yellowstone can be volatile and swift, and its effects can be very cruel. In all probability, the winter ordeal of Yellowstone's animals will have been shortened by this mild autumn. Elk numbers, already too high in the opinion of many, have not been much diminished by the fall hunt, which is driven by elk migrating out of the park, where they cannot be hunted, onto lands where they can be. This may be an easy winter followed by a bounteous spring, or it may be the kind that leaves the park littered with corpses.

As it happens, 1998 will mark the 30th year of natural regulation in Yellowstone National Park. Natural regulation is both a theology in the National Park Service and a scientifically validated, usefully controversial practice. It means, in essence, letting nature take its course — letting, say, winter wreak what havoc it will on the animals in Yellowstone Park without feeding them. No one denies that there are philosophical problems with the idea of natural regulation. At the very least, choosing not to intervene in the affairs of nature is itself a decision about those affairs. It was especially felt to be such in a winter like 1988-89, when, after the fires, thousands of elk died of starvation in Yellowstone.

Nature, for most Americans, has come to mean an outdoor venue where recreation occurs — an arena, of sorts, where the struggles of life and death that are the essence of nature take place offstage. A bitter winter moves that struggle onstage, with consequences everyone can see. As winter begins to claim its victims, Yellowstone and its 30-year effort to refine the meaning of natural regulation offer this valuable reminder. Americans are more familiar with waste than with death. That is why nature sometimes seems strange to us, for in nature there is death but no waste at all.

Editorial Observer/GAIL COLLINS

Now Playing: Waiting for Ferraro

Before she decides whether to run for the United States Senate, Geraldine Ferraro says she has to assure herself that she would be "the best person to deliver for New York State." Thousands of politicians have used a similar test over the last 220 years. Remarkably few have ever wound up concluding that there are probably other people who could do the job better.

Thanks to Ms. Ferraro, the infant 1998 Senate race has become a political version of "Waiting for Godot." The announced Democratic candidates, Public Advocate Mark Green and Representative Charles Schumer, still have the lead parts, standing in the spotlight, talking endlessly. (The roles they were born to play!) Senator Al D'Amato occasionally comes onstage to make hostile gestures at random targets. (Acid rain, breast cancer, teachers' unions, whatever. New York's junior Senator is belligerent on your behalf.) Meanwhile, the focus of all interest is staying out of sight.

Thirteen years after she ran for Vice President, Geraldine Ferraro is still that increasingly rare commodity, a political celebrity. In a rational world, January would be more than enough time for someone with her level of recognition to prepare for an election 10 months away. But it is hard to be spontaneous when you are talking about a race that could easily wind up costing its contenders \$20 million each. Mr. Schumer has been saving for this campaign so long he probably has his eighth grade gradu-

Everybody remembers who she was — is that enough?

ation money in the war chest.

Some Democrats think Mr. D'Amato would like to run against a potentially underfunded Ms. Ferraro. That might explain the peculiar attack ads he ran briefly this fall, blasting her as a tax-and-spend liberal. They may have been an attempt to goad her into the race. Otherwise, it is hard to imagine what the Senator thought he could accomplish by lambasting the record of a woman who has not held office since 1984. How many people out there are still stewing over the 1979 welfare bill?

"I can raise the money," Ms. Ferraro said. "I'll be doing it full time. I'll be on the phone six hours a day."

If Ms. Ferraro has been stalling just to avoid those six-hour fundraising marathons, who can blame her? ("You sit in a darkened room," said one veteran politician. "And you call and call, and soon you hear your self saying things like: 'After the election, I'll look forward to hearing more about your interesting ideas on a death penalty for shoplifting.'") But it does raise the question of how hungry she really is for this job. None of Ms. Ferraro's experiences in electoral politics outside the borough of Queens have been all that pleasant. After that transcendent moment

in 1984 when she was nominated as Walter Mondale's running mate, her campaign degenerated into a long, gory argument about tax returns and ended with a pioneering appearance as the first female Vice-Presidential nominee to appear in a Diet Pepsi commercial. She lost the Senate primary in 1992 after Elizabeth Holtzman ran television ads charging her with "collecting \$340,000 from a child pornographer."

Most of Ms. Ferraro's campaign woes have been related to the real estate business of her husband, John Zaccaro. Nevertheless, Ms. Ferraro never seems to have made an effort to sever herself from her husband's operations, and she has entered one election after another with a stunning lack of concern about how the issue would be handled. Asked if she was still an officer in her husband's real estate company, Ms. Ferraro claimed she didn't know. "I may be — probably," she said. "It doesn't mean anything."

Back in February, the former Congresswoman sent a letter to New York Democrats asking them to stay uncommitted until early 1998. She would get back to them then, she wrote, "either to tell you I love you for waiting but I've decided to put an end to my public service career, or I love you and I need you to help me send Al D'Amato back to Island Park." If Ms. Ferraro opts for the Island Park scenario, she will be betting that for a politician with her unique history and charisma, all you need is love.

Putting Profits Ahead of Care

To the Editor:

"Behind the Bleeding at Oxford" (Business Day, Dec. 9) might leave the impression that not paying bills and unethical business practices are exclusive to Oxford Health Plans Inc. But health maintenance organizations that I've joined in California did the same things. Some of my colleagues and I quit the plans. More would like to quit but can't. Loyal patients often follow doctors into health maintenance organizations. When the doctor leaves, patients may find it difficult to follow him or her back out.

The health insurance industry takes premium money intended for patient care and uses it for marketing, stockholder profits and huge executive salaries. It has remained profitable by squeezing every section of the health care system.

We must rid our society of this superfluous industry, which is minimizing care and destroying our health care system by making patients a commodity, leaving 41 million Americans uninsured. We need national health care coverage for all.

MELVIN H. KIRSCHNER, M.D.
Van Nuys, Calif., Dec. 9, 1997

Distrust Bad Writers

To the Editor:

What is most revealing about the face-off between Oxford Health Plans and its doctors (Business Day, Dec. 9) is the evident inability of either side to write a letter without errors. The excerpts you published are full of wrong word choices ("incredulous" when "incredible" is meant; "extremism" as a catch-all criticism; "individuals" as a pretentious substitute for "people") and sentences misconstrued or murky. No wonder these people are in trouble!

As a professor, I know bad writing betrays weak thought and carelessness. As a consumer, I'll draw the logical conclusion: Stay away from Oxford.

RICHARD LOCKWOOD
Highland Park, N.J., Dec. 10, 1997

Patient Protection Bill

To the Editor:

"In Medicine, Government Rises Again" (Week in Review, Dec. 7) mentions the bill sponsored by Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato and Representa-

tive Charles W. Norwood Jr. that would protect managed care patients, particularly where the plans have tried to crawl under the protection of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act. When plans improperly deny care, consumers cannot make them accountable under state law, because that Federal law supersedes state protections.

Over the last few years Congress has required people to take more responsibility for their lives and to be more accountable. The same should be true for managed care plans.

The managed care industry and big business are trying to tar the bill with the "Clinton universal health care" label. But the bill is anything but social engineering. It is a bipartisan effort to restore choice and accountability to a health care system ruled by the bottom-line concerns of corporate executives.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10, 1997
The writer is chairman, Patient Access to Responsible Care Alliance.

Mental Health Coverage

To the Editor:

"Mentally Ill Called Victims of Cost-Cutting" (news article, Dec. 10) reports on a study claiming that private hospitals are rejecting psychiatric patients, dumping them on financially strapped public hospitals. But the issue is really patient care.

Mental illnesses are treated differently from other illnesses. Coverage is discriminatory, with arbitrary limits placed on behavioral disorders (including lifetime and annual dollar limits) not found on coverage for physical illnesses. These limited benefits are quickly exhausted by those with severe mental illnesses.

Psychiatric hospitals do more than their share to help people whose coverage is exhausted; as a result, their uncompensated cost of care is high. Equal coverage for behavioral disorders would go a long way to insure a more rational distribution of resources and improved access to care.

RICHARD J. DAVIDSON
MARK J. COVALL
Washington, Dec. 12, 1997

The writers are, respectively, president of the American Hospital Assn. and executive director, National Assn. of Psychiatric Health Systems.



Is Search for Missing Too Risky for Soldiers?

To the Editor:

A Dec. 7 front-page article reports the decision by Gen. John M. Shalikashvili, then chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, not to allow a 1994 secret mission to Iraq to bring back a Navy pilot missing in the Persian Gulf war because it would be too risky.

Special-operations soldiers would have been willing to volunteer for the mission, despite the possibility of losing their own lives. It has always been an unwritten code of the military that we do not leave our people behind.

If those who serve our country cannot feel that all efforts will be made to extricate them, if necessary, from enemy territory, our best service people will leave.

Some of today's military leaders appear too timid to uphold this basic doctrine. The civilian leaders who certify such decisions are equally at fault. As graduates of the service academies, we recall an old saying in the military: Loyalty down breeds loyalty up. Some of our leaders don't seem to understand the meaning of that.

JOHN F. FLANAGAN
ERIC D. ROSEN
New York, Dec. 11, 1997

The writers are, respectively, a retired Air Force Reserve brigadier general and a former Navy lieutenant.

No 'Safe Bacteria'

To the Editor:

Michael F. Jacobson (letter, Dec. 9) suggests inoculating animals with "safe bacteria" as an alternative to irradiation. But safe bacteria have been known to mutate with unforeseen results. Also, the addition of any substances to foodstuffs should be avoided whenever possible. Proper sanitary practices (like hand washing and avoiding contamination) and teaching workers proper methodologies are preferable to remedial treatment.

FRED A. ROSENBERG
Boston, Dec. 9, 1997

The writer is a professor of microbiology, Northeastern University.

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No Echoes of Thoreau in Unabom Case

To the Editor:

It is not only Henry David Thoreau's lack of explosives that distinguishes him from Theodore J. Kaczynski, the suspect in the Unabom case (Week in Review, Dec. 7). After "Walden," Thoreau wrote "Civil Disobedience," which inspired the non-violent strategies of Mohandas K. Gandhi, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and others intent on correcting injustices.

Thoreau valued obedience to one's conscience over allegiance to the state, but here's his formula for law-breaking: "If it is of such a nature that it requires you to be the agent of injustice to another, then, I say, break the law."

His method of lawbreaking was refusing to pay a poll tax, for which he was jailed until Ralph Waldo Emerson paid the tax. The story goes that when Emerson asked Thoreau, "What are you doing in there?", Thoreau responded, "What are you doing out there?"

STEVEN GEVINSON
Oak Park, Ill., Dec. 7, 1997

When Audiences Are Louder Than Concerts

To the Editor:

Some coughers in a classical music audience are victims, not people who are expressing their disapproval or boredom or suffering from colds (Critic's Notebook, Dec. 11). They are reacting to the excessive scents permeating the air, like perfumes, deodorants and after-shave lotions. Allergic conditions cannot be turned off, but these scents can be moderated.

This problem extends beyond the concert hall and into places of business. Some allergic reactions are worse than coughing, including, for example, excruciating pain. The public must be made aware of the aller-

Economic 'Flu' Isn't Asia's Alone

To the Editor:

You should consider dropping the "Asian flu" metaphor from accounts of the financial crisis ("Many Players, Many Losers," Business Day, Dec. 10).

To suggest that a mysterious virus is to blame seems culturally condescending and is also wrong. This debacle originated in New York as well as in Jakarta, Bangkok, Seoul and Tokyo.

A more accurate metaphor would evoke psychological disorder. It afflicted global bankers and financiers, both American and foreign. Their lending and investing gradually became unhinged from the economic reality, as soaring returns fostered delusions of invincibility. This binge ended abruptly, as manias do. Their borrowers are smashed. Naturally, the lenders are depressed.

The United States and the International Monetary Fund propose to make them feel better by rescuing those creditors from their mistakes. Our United States credit (and tax money) will replenish failed borrowers so that they can pay back the notes held by our worried bankers. So bankers will start lending to them again. This is a bizarre approach to therapy; it rewards the patient for his own reckless illusions.

I do observe one form of "contagion" in the present crisis. It's a virus called self-doubt, which appears to be spreading among the usual cheerleaders for global finance. This is a healthy sign for the rest of us.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10, 1997
The writer is the national editor of Rolling Stone magazine.

Disastrous Prescription

To the Editor:

"Korean Quicksand" (editorial, Dec. 12), on the International Monetary Fund's \$37 billion bailout package for South Korea, ignores the potentially disastrous impact of the fund's prescriptions in South Korea and East Asia. East Asians are being subjected to a lethal concoction of fiscal contraction and high interest rates unjustified by underlying conditions that threatens to roll back the social advances achieved over decades.

The "real" crisis is that mass unemployment is emerging as a threat to social progress. Over the next year 1.5 million Thais are expected to lose their jobs as a result of I.M.F. programs. The poor will also bear the brunt of public spending cuts in health and education.

By contrast, the I.M.F. is providing protection to foreign investors, effectively establishing public responsibility for private debt. What market principle dictates that footloose investors, unlike poor rural producers, should be bailed out and insulated from risk?

JUSTIN FORSYTH
Dir., Oxfam International Advocacy
Washington, Dec. 12, 1997

Studying for a Job

To the Editor:

David Greenbaum (letter, Dec. 12) has missed the point in the debate on why history is taught. Students are "unable to understand the complexities of modern political life" precisely because they have attention spans far too short to read a chapter in a history book and see the obvious relationships therein.

Furthermore, if students seriously think that only by taking courses in practical subjects they are "setting their sights on a sure thing," a secure job," they have missed one of the most important lessons that history has taught us from 1930 on. There are no more secure jobs, and limiting one's understanding to the workings of some fashionable technology will not help much. A grasp of history will at least provide a background for the changes ahead.

LEE GOELLER
Haddonfield, N.J., Dec. 12, 1997

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Cough Drops for All

To the Editor:

I know the irritation of having a favorite musical moment disrupted by someone's respiratory distress, but if I believed that people could stop themselves but choose not to because they don't feel the performance deserves such respect (Critic's Notebook, Dec. 11), I fear my irritation would overflow into violence.

I noticed that the 92d Street Y offers cough drops by the entrance — the kind "wrapped in discreet" waxy paper, not cellophane. I used this idea for the chamber music series I organize at Amherst College, and backing has declined appreciably. Or are we simply presenting more entrancing artists?

AMHERST, MASS., Dec. 11, 1997

Anger and Amnesty In South Africa

By Mark Mathabane

IS it humanly possible to forgive someone who attaches a power generator to the chained hands and feet of other human beings, calmly turns on the switch and then watches them writhe and foam blood at the mouth and ears as bursts of electricity fry every part of their bodies?

Earlier this year, when the Truth and Reconciliation Commission began its investigation of human rights abuses during the apartheid era in South Africa, I was among those who believed it was the ideal way to heal my homeland's deep racial wounds.

But in the past few months that belief has been severely tested. I've been shocked, sickened and enraged by what has surfaced during the testimony. Once again, I've felt hatred,

Will my relatives
and comrades
be given a chance
to forgive?

an emotion I fought hard to purge from my heart because it corrodes the soul and ossifies empathy.

I've wept without restraint at finally learning the fate suffered by friends, classmates, teachers, neighbors and comrades with whom I came of age after the Soweto Student Rebellion of June 16, 1976. That was the day when black South Africans finally threw down the gauntlet and dared the apartheid regime to do its worst, because we could no longer be denied freedom in our own country.

I've grappled with guilt. Guilt at recalling that two of my brothers-in-law were gunned down shortly after I published "Kaffir Boy" and began speaking out in the United States against apartheid.

Sometimes the guilt I feel is more generalized. Why did I survive when so many township youths, armed only with bricks, gasolene bombs and shields made from the dented lids of trash cans, died fighting the mightiest army in Africa? How did I escape when so many guerrilla fighters, who infiltrated the countryside, were betrayed by Askaris — former guerrillas turned informers — and then tortured and brutally murdered?

My generation was not afraid to die. That's what makes the stories revealed in testimony to the Truth Commission so wrenching.

Take the example of Harold Sefola, a member of Umkonto We Sizwe, the military wing of the African National Congress. After Sefola was betrayed by informers, the notorious Vlakplaspas police unit took him to an open field, where two of his comrades were already bound, awaiting their fate. An interrogator shoved a knife into his nose, and Sefola admitted to masterminding

Mark Mathabane, the author of "Kaffir Boy," a South African memoir, writes regularly on race and education.

several bomb explosions and planting mines.

Sefola then pleaded for his life. When his pleas were ignored, he asked his interrogators if he could say something. He was permitted last rites. They untied him, and he stood up and began singing "Nkosi Sikeleli Afrika," the A.N.C. anthem. He then told his torturers that they could go ahead and kill him, but prophetically predicted that someday the A.N.C. would rule South Africa.

He resumed singing the anthem as he watched his two comrades being electrocuted. When his turn came to die, he thrust his clenched fist defiantly into the air and saluted his dead comrades in the name of the struggle. He met his fate like a true African warrior.

The three torturers who are now asking for amnesty didn't even have the decency to bury Sefola and his comrades. Instead they loaded the stiff bodies into a minibus, took them to a remote dirt road in the homeland of Bophuthatswana, placed them on a landmine and then detonated it to make it appear as if they had ineptly blown themselves up.

After listening to accounts of such atrocities, I found myself asking, Is it right to hijack justice for the sake of holding to a dubious truism about the past? What about the victims? What about the mothers who have lost their sons and daughters and husbands? What about the orphaned children I recently saw wandering the streets of my hometown of Alexandria, dressed in rags, sleeping in shacks without heat, scavenging for food in garbage heaps?

What about Given and Angie, my niece and nephew, who lost their fathers to an assassin's bullets? What about the youths scarred for life by torture? How can they be expected to accept that torturers and murderers are being set free, and that many sometimes return to their old jobs as policemen and receive pensions for their "honorable service to the country"?

The commission promised to grant amnesty to security force members who can prove that in torturing and murdering they were following orders.

But in much of the testimony I've heard — even from those whose motives for confessing have more to do with the cowardly urge to escape justice than to save their souls — few have proved that they were following specific orders.

Murderers and torturers should not be allowed to blame apartheid as their only excuse for criminal behavior. The commission should grant amnesty only to those who name exactly who gave them orders. So far, most have refused to do so. We must break their code of silence by refusing them amnesty.

Granting it to people who haven't fingered their superiors, as the commission has done many times so far, protects these suspects from being tried in criminal court or being sued by survivors or families of victims. Many of these survivors and families feel that justice has not been served. They aren't saints; they can forgive only where it is humanly possible to forgive — and where forgiveness is truly deserved.

Someone must be held responsible for these crimes. If a person proves that superiors gave him specific orders, then the superiors would be



Brian Cronin

responsible and can be tried.

Therefore, the Mandela Government should prosecute to the fullest extent of the law those who are clearly guilty and unrepentant. This may prove difficult. I know that the A.N.C., which I support, tortured people in its camps. And I was outraged and sickened by the testimony in the case against Winnie Madikizela-Mandela. No one's hands are clean. Eighteen years of living under apartheid taught me that there are no easy answers.

But the commission can set an example for South Africans and the world if, in the final report it plans to release next year, it strikes a balance between the search for the truth and the need for personal justice. Survivors and families of victims should have the prerogative to decide whether to forgive, which, remarkably, many of them choose to do.

There was a woman who spent years searching for those who had tortured and murdered her son. When the perpetrators were finally found, brought to trial and found guilty, the woman was asked by the judge what kind of punishment she wanted them to suffer.

"Punishment?" the woman asked, perplexed.

"Yes, punishment," the judge said. "We now have the power to punish such people."

"Oh, no," she said. "I was searching for these men for a different

reason, your honor."

"What reason?"

"I wanted to know whom to forgive," the woman said.

Finding the truth helped her forgive her son's murderers and uphold her integrity as a human being, rather than seek revenge and contaminate her soul.

Reconciliation is possible, provided the families of victims do not believe that in the pursuit of truth, they are being denied justice. South Africans have shown a willingness to take the path toward national healing. Let's hope the Truth Commission is brave enough to do so as well.

In America

BOB HERBERT

The Success Taboo

Somehow over the past two or three decades a lot of black kids absorbed the message that academic achievement was something to be shunned. Excellence in sports or the various entertainment fields was one thing, a good thing, but high marks and academic honors were something else. Academic achievement, according to this mind-bogglingly destructive way of thinking, was a white thing, and thus in some sense contemptible. The tragic result has been that in many schools across the country black kids who apply themselves to their studies are often ridiculed and at times ostracized.

A black teacher in the Bronx told me in a despairing tone that she has male students who would rather be paraded in handcuffs before television cameras than be caught reading a book. I've had many students tell me in interviews that they are afraid to raise their hands in the classroom because they don't want to repeat the experience of being laughed at for giving the correct answer.

A black 17-year-old girl who worked part time at a mall in Marietta, Ga., was taunted recently by high school classmates who showed up at her job to express their resentment at the high marks she was getting.

Now, and not a moment too soon, comes Hugh Price, president of the National Urban League, with an ambitious first step toward turning this madness around.

"We haven't surrounded our young people with enough opportunities to excel academically and to be recognized for excelling," said Mr. Price. "We haven't had the rituals in our own community that reward young people for doing well."

The Urban League has drawn together 20 national black organizations, including the Congress of National Black Churches, for what it calls the Campaign for African-American Achievement. The idea is to improve the academic standing of black youngsters by encouraging and rewarding excellence in the classroom, and by improving the quality of the education that is offered to black youngsters in the public schools.

A statement announcing the campaign said: "We have to reverse the increasing gap in academic achievement between African-American and other children. We have to increase the low rates of enrollment of African-American youngsters in college preparatory courses and attack the inequitable allocation

of resources for public education." There is an urgency in Mr. Price's manner as he talks about this effort. He and his colleagues recognize that black men and women will have to be substantially better prepared educationally if they are to survive economically as we move into the 21st century. Employers, as Mr. Price noted, "expect much more in the way of academic preparation than ever before." And affirmative action, however one feels about it, is almost certain to continue its fade from the scene.

The achievement campaign will try in a variety of ways to generate en-

When black
students excel.

thusiasm among students and parents for the hard work that is necessary to succeed academically. This will not be easy in environments that are plagued by poverty, broken families, drug abuse, violence and the widespread notion that what is taught in the classroom is not relevant to the lives of the students.

The campaign will establish an honor society, called the National Achievers Society, to focus attention on black youngsters who excel academically. The first induction ceremony, to be presided over by Gen. Colin Powell, will be held next spring.

September has been designated Achievement Month by the campaign. The plan is to have Urban League affiliates, black churches and other organizations conduct a month-long series of high-profile events each year celebrating the efforts of black youngsters who are doing well in school.

Meanwhile, leaders of the campaign are working with professional organizations and universities around the country to determine where improvements in the public schools need to be made and what specific kinds of academic help are needed for under-achieving students.

This is not a perfect plan. Much of it will be modified and some of it will fail. But it does send the crucial message that academic achievement is as important for black people as anyone else. It's a message that somehow has escaped the consciousness of too many black children.

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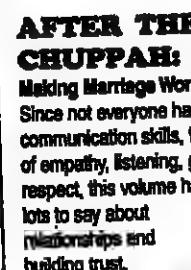
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Essay

WILLIAM SAFIRE

Here Come the Indys

Comatose counsels
hit their stride.

WASHINGTON
My status as Certified Social Pariah has just been confirmed by the White House, which has again stricken my name from the list of invitees to the Clinton media Christmas party. Also disinvited from this taxpayer-supported stroke function is my colleague Maureen Dowd, which leaves her devastated, as she had already beribboned a poppy biscuit for the new First Dog.

All I did lately was to point to this flagrant example of malfeasance in Lee Radek's laughably titled "Public Integrity" section at Justice: The see-no-Democratic-evil bureaucrats there — influenced by the unconfirmable Robert Litt, the Clintons' de facto boss of the Criminal Division — declined to prosecute a high official in the Agriculture Department, and then went to court to obstruct Independent Counsel Donald Smaltz's prosecution of the same man.

Now, two years later, despite Clinton Justice's wrongful protection of a corrupt Clinton official, a jury has convicted him for lying about a \$22,000 payment. That, in my book, is also an indictment of Public Integrity. Quis custodiet?

Here's some good news: Justice's Office of Professional Responsibility has launched an investigation of what one official calls "sommambulism at Public Integrity." If Janet Reno lets the departing Michael Shaheen's deputy, Richard Rogers, get to the reason for the attempted prosecutorial obstruction, we may see changes at the rotting core of the department.

That is but one reason that I am fretted with a sense of progress in what

has seemed to be a hopeless cause of uncovering Clinton corruption. First, see how the Indys are awakening:

• Independent Counsel Smaltz, fresh from a major conviction, is bringing former Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy to trial and is hot on the trail of Clinton's Tyson connection.

• Independent Counsel David Barrett, whose grand jury indictment of ex-Housing Secretary Henry Cisneros was handed up last week, has sent a shock of concern into stonewallers in other cases who may be misleading investigators, or feigning forgetfulness, on far weightier matters than mistress upkeep.

• Independent Counsel Ken Starr, weaving his tangled Web, seems to be coming to a conclusion about hush money and the Lippo Group. (One of these years, I'm going to be right about Starr.)

Next, Chairman Dan Burton's committee in the House turns out to be more responsibly probing than many expected. Examining Reno and Louis Freeh, Burton showed he could control a newsworthy hearing; the new counsel he hired, Richard Bennett, is a pro and Representative Bob Barr is a terrier on interrogation.

Under unwavering questioning by Representative Chris Cox, Reno needed constant prompting from aides.

When Cox asked if Justice had commenced a preliminary investigation of Lippo check-handler Antonio Pan, she was forced to admit "No, we have not." Asked the same about the Clinton aide Mark Middleton, who may be in a different category, she again had to reveal she had not.

This comes on top of recent revelations in this space that Lippo's John Huang — at the center of the money-raising from foreign sources — has not been asked one question by the sleepwalkers at Justice. He has not taken the Fifth as he did with Congress; he has just not been bothered, and we've known of his Oval Office assignment for 14 months.

But under noodling from the Burton committee, I get the sense that we'll be seeing a few token indictments soon. Then, when Burton brings forward the Babbitt Indians in January, Reno will be hard pressed to continue her protection of a Public Integrity section being discredited both from without and within. A new Indy Counsel for the campaign scandal is inevitable.

And that's not all: The writing press is advancing the story. The L.A. Times develops leads for Congress; the Wall Street Journal and New York Times editorialists are unrelenting, and David Johnston of The New York Times is uncovering Justice as nobody else. (Hillary Clinton will be lading out extra eggnog to The Washington Post, defender of Reno, at the holiday bash.)

That's why I have this sense of security about the republic as the holiday season approaches. Exposure of wrongdoing is in the air. Here come the chickens home to roost.

THE ARTS

The Hollywood Taskmaster Who Made 'Titanic'

By JUSTINE ELIAS

WHEN IT OPENS ON Friday, "Titanic," the movie that has long been the subject of Hollywood gossip and public fascination, will be almost six months late and \$100 million over its original \$100 million budget. But there is nothing personally slow or extravagant about the film's director, writer, producer and editor, James Cameron. He is a tall, thin man with a pale, hard-edged face and a brutal haircut, and he is a supremely focused taskmaster who speaks so fast that his associates can scarcely apprehend one of his ideas before he has moved to the next.

Case in point: As Mr. Cameron critiqued the final cut of "Titanic," giving his last directions regarding its printing, his obsessive, rapid-fire remarks so confounded his colleagues that they had to scramble to videotape him so they would be able to review his commentary later and carry out his orders. "There's no way to take notes when I get going," Mr. Cameron said recently. "And usually there is no second chance."

During a decade-long run of seven technically innovative, emotionally complex action films — from "The Terminator" (1984) to "Aliens" (1986) to "True Lies" (1994) — Mr. Cameron, who is 43, moved boldly in establishing himself as the leading action-movie director. All told, his films have earned more than half a billion dollars and 18 Academy Award nominations. "Titanic," which is both a lavish simulation of one of the worst sea disasters ever and an old-style romance, starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet, may serve notice that Mr. Cameron is something more: a Hollywood director who has learned how to put technological innovation, and a huge budget, at the service of drama.

Mr. Cameron is known for his perfectionism and for highbrowed dealings with actors, crew and studio bosses. His friend William Wisler, with whom he wrote the screenplay for "Terminator 2: Judgment Day," calls him, only half-joking, "the ultimate scuba-diving Navy Seal filmmaker." But Mr. Cameron also has a reputation for getting things done under adverse circumstances, and that reputation will be enhanced now that "Titanic," despite its troubled

note control from a small submarine. (Film from this expedition is included in "Titanic," as part of a contemporary story that frames the historical account.)

In May 1996, the original backer of "Titanic," 20th Century Fox, became nervous about Mr. Cameron's rising costs and sought a production partner. Paramount kicked in \$55 million, on the condition that it have the distribution rights in the United

'You can't have a love story without death,' says James Cameron.

States and Canada. As Mr. Cameron continued to film the contemporary part of his story on a Russian scientific boat off the coast of Nova Scotia, Fox finished constructing its new production center in Rosarito, Mexico. There, in the fall of 1996, set designers constructed a nine-tenths-scale model of the opulent ship and a 12-acre water tank, and Mr. Cameron proceeded to re-create the sinking of the Titanic.

After shooting fell a month behind schedule — because of weather and technical difficulties and not, Mr. Cameron said, injuries on the set and a bizarre incident in which 80 members of the cast and crew were poisoned by tainted seafood — the projected release date, July 2, became impossible to meet. To help cut costs during the additional months of post-production, Mr. Cameron offered to forgo the salaries for his work as director and producer, receiving only his screenwriting fee.

MR. CAMERON'S PREVIOUS screen stories, about self-reliant heroines who tangle with killer aliens, killer androids and killer spies, were composed on a large canvas. This time, he has dared to go further, setting his story in the midst of one of the most potent symbols of 20th-century hubris. He said he wanted audiences to come away from "Titanic" not primarily awed by effects-driven spectacle but humbled by the depiction of the hard choices faced by the people on the ship.

Mr. Cameron said that in his "Titanic" he wanted to take a different tack from that taken in the almost documentarylike "Night to Remember," the acclaimed 1958 British film. "I wanted to honor the reality of Titanic, but I don't want that to get in the way of telling a great story," he said. "This is the most character-driven script I've ever done. I wanted it to be about the Titanic in the way that 'Dr. Zhivago' is about the Russian Revolution. It isn't, really. It's about these two people."

"Titanic" centers on the ill-starred romance of a society girl, Rose DeWitt Bukater (Ms. Winslet), and a penniless artist, Jack Dawson (Mr. DiCaprio), two teen-agers who find in each other the will to survive. "You can't have a great love story without death being a factor," Mr. Cameron said. "If you care for somebody else, you become aware of their mortality, and everything you do is informed by that."

The contemporary story, set aboard a treasure hunter's ship and narrated by Rose (Gloria Stuart), now 101 years old, is "about the transference of dynamic energy from one person to another," the director said. "The greatest loves in a person's life are the ones that have a transformative effect. You can't really change; you can only emerge."

Mr. Cameron has vast experience with this subject; he has been married four times, most recently to the actress Linda Hamilton, the star of the "Terminator" movies. "Of course, that's a very optimistic view of relationships," he added. "Some-



Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet in "Titanic" — technological innovation and a huge budget at the service of drama.

times it works in the opposite way: it can bring out the worst in a person."

What brings out the worst in Mr. Cameron, at least in a professional setting, was the subject of much ill-timed reportage from the set of "Titanic." He makes no apologies for his toughness on actors and crew members, but he is infuriated by reports of unsafe conditions on the Mexican set. Though one crew member was injured driving her own car in an after-hours road accident, and three stunt players broke bones, no actors or extras required hospital treatment, the film's producers say.

EVEN BEFORE HE STARTED "Titanic," Mr. Cameron's tendency to browbeat cast and crew when things didn't go his way had become the stuff of Hollywood legend. (The name of his production company, Lightstorm, seems oddly appropriate, reflecting his inclination toward brief, intimidating outbursts.)

"I definitely have this kind of reputation, and it's probably deserved up to a certain extent," he acknowledged.

In any case, he has built up an army of devoted friends and employees, most of whom are eager to work with him again. One member of the "Titanic" team who is unlikely to do so, however, is the film's original cinematographer, Caleb Deschanel, who left "Titanic" after only two weeks of filming off Nova Scotia. Mr. Deschanel, who earned Academy Award nominations for photographing "Fly Away Home," "The Natural" and "The Right Stuff," is also a respected director.

"His work is beautiful, no question about it," Mr. Cameron said of Mr. Deschanel. "But he has been directing his own films, and I didn't know enough about his methodology. He is much more suited to working with a director whose only interest is working with the actors."

Mr. Deschanel's replacement was Russell Carpenter, the cinematographer on "True Lies," who early on had filmed some studio test footage for "Titanic" and rejoined the project at short notice when the filming moved to Mexico.

"There is a craziness that he builds into every situation that he thrives on," Mr. Carpenter said of Mr. Cameron. "But that seems to be the creative cradle from which all his best stuff comes."

When things go wrong, Mr. Cameron does tend to yell or make withering remarks. "Because he thinks so fast, he can have a hair-trigger tem-

per on the set," said Mr. Carpenter. Mr. Cameron's exploration of love and loyalty in extremis may well have been born of his experience growing up in Niagara Falls, Ontario. His mother was an artist, his father an electrical engineer. As the oldest of five children, Mr. Cameron was ringleader in stunts like tree-house sabotage, U.F.O. hoaxes and building medieval-style weaponry.

When he was 17, the family moved to Brea, a town in Southern California. According to Mr. Wisler, Mr. Cameron's films reflect three hobbies he pursued as a teen-ager: scuba diving, painting and writing science fiction. After a two-year stint at a local college studying physics, and a brief marriage in his early 20's, Mr. Cameron found a job at Roger Corman's New World Films, the same low-budget, low-paying production company where directors like Francis Ford Coppola and Jonathan

Demme learned their craft. His first assignment was building models for the space saga "Battle Beyond the Stars."

"Within about three weeks, Jim went from getting guys coffee to being the art director and running the whole show," Mr. Wisler said. "He had talent and fire and drive. He would work until he dropped."

Mr. Cameron's first directing credit was the inauspicious "Piranha 2: The Spawning" (1981). When the film's Italian producers tried to dismiss him during the editing, Mr. Cameron recalled, he stole the finished print and recut it.

One of Mr. Cameron's co-workers at New World was Gale Anne Hurd, who later produced the script for "The Terminator" and became his second wife. Their professional union outlasted their marriage; the two were divorcing as they worked on "The Abyss," which is about an es-

tranged couple and alien life on the ocean floor.

Between the making of "Terminator 2" (1991) and "True Lies," Mr. Cameron was also producer for the movies "Strange Days" and "Point Break," which were directed by his third wife, Kathryn Bigelow. After "Titanic," he said, he plans to take a similar break, producing action films by other directors and searching for a smaller-scale project to call his own.

"I've been thinking about that a lot: going back to that hand-held Cassavetes-type stuff," he said. "The film would have to be so stripped down. The second I added one digital shot, it would invite comparison to films I'd done on a much greater budget. I would want it to be a pure writing-and-acting exercise, with nothing else to get dazzled or distracted by."



James Cameron.

history, is arriving in theaters, to much early acclaim, with some chance of breaking even if not actually making money.

The history of the movie is almost as familiar as that of the Titanic, the state-of-the-art British ocean liner that sank in the early hours of April 15, 1912, after colliding with an iceberg in the North Atlantic (more than 1,500 of some 2,200 people aboard died). Mr. Cameron and his team started to research the ship's story more than five years ago. In typical Cameron fashion, he eventually insisted on filming the actual wreckage, which was discovered in 1986 about 400 miles off the coast of Newfoundland.

He did so with the help of his brother Michael, a mechanical engineer who fashioned a mobile titanium housing that could protect a 35-millimeter movie camera from the water pressure two and a half miles down and could be operated by re-



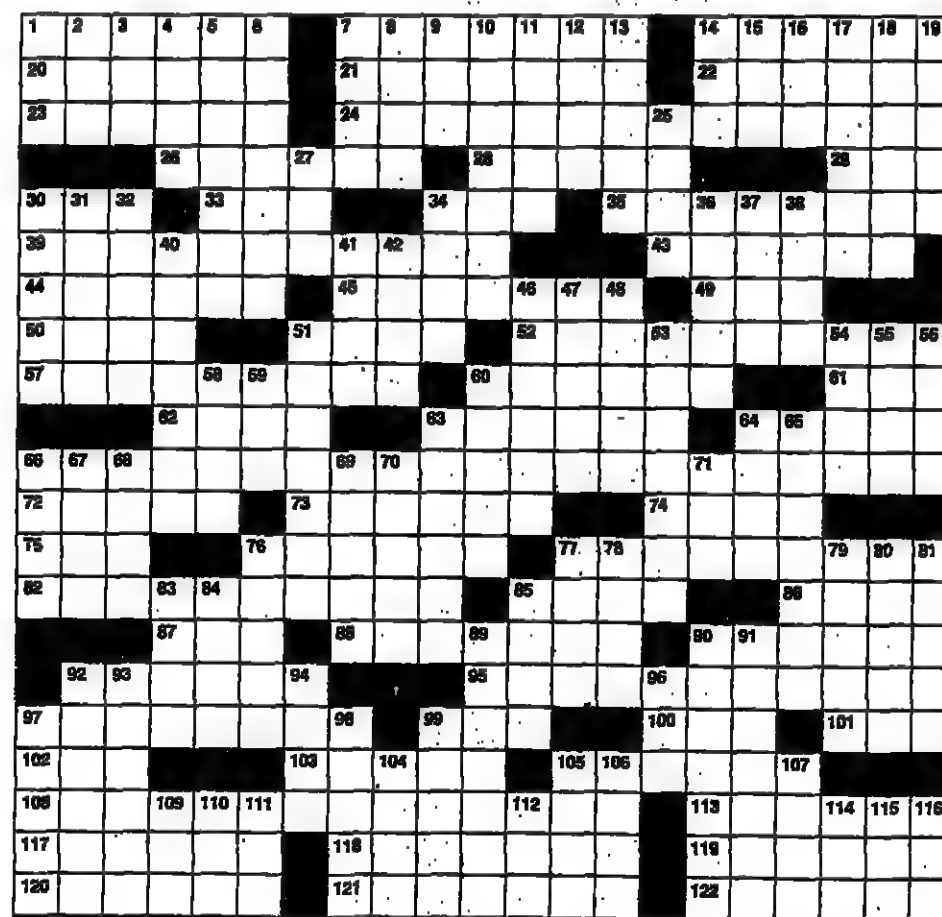
Arnold Schwarzenegger and Jamie Lee Curtis in Mr. Cameron's pre-"Titanic" film, "True Lies."

HEY, IT'S A LIVING

By NANCY SALOMON / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

- 1 Calculating machine inventor, 1842
- 7 Reach
- 14 Protest
- 20 Delphi temple god
- 21 Invented word
- 22 Fingerprint features
- 23 Supper
- 24 Job for a restaurant server?
- 25 Pesticide
- 28 Had dinner at home
- 29 Three-way joint
- 30 Professional org.
- 31 Milne marsupial
- 34 Yugoslav novelist — Andric
- 35 Mildew cause
- 39 Job for a statistician?
- 43 Hurting the most
- 44 Alan and Adam
- 45 Blintzes, e.g.
- 49 Dustup
- 50 Player for coach Marv Levy
- 51 Embargoes
- 52 Job for a plastic surgeon?
- 57 Skid row look
- 60 Tomato-impact noises
- 61 — man
- 62 70's All-Star — O'J
- 63 Most like a wallflower
- 64 Worry
- 66 Job for a mathematician?
- 72 Plays the siren
- 73 Quark/antiquark particles
- 74 Rudolph's refusal
- 75 Man-mouse link
- 76 Food on a tray
- 77 What squeaky wheels get
- 82 Job for a relay racer?
- 85 Like Mongolia
- 86 Photography woe
- 87 Scull
- 88 Summoned
- 90 Jack
- 92 Styx ferryman
- 95 Job for a critic?
- 97 London institution
- 99 Rhine feeder
- 100 Second-century date
- 103 1978 disaster film, with "The"
- 101 Thumbs up
- 102 Airport info: Abbr.
- 105 Ripoffs
- 108 Job for a debutante?
- 113 Panama party
- 117 Screenfuls
- 118 Caught by surprise, with "on"
- 119 Athlete's assignment
- 120 Lohengrin and others



- 121 Toast opening
- 122 Temp

DOWN

- 1 Course number
- 2 Goon
- 3 Bread, maybe
- 4 Sound of shutters in the wind
- 5 Minor-party candidate
- 6 Avon products
- 7 Parrot
- 8 Word ending in "o" in Esperanto
- 9 Compass pt.
- 10 Solve
- 11 Check words
- 12 Chill
- 13 Not strong
- 14 Have a title
- 15 Scholarly type
- 16 One to remember, for short
- 17 Spiels
- 18 Like the best ruse
- 19 "Women Who Run With the Wolves" author
- 25 Collections
- 27 Landscaper's need
- 30 Iraqis, e.g.
- 31 Singing Osmond
- 32 Shackle site
- 34 Woes of the world
- 36 Dew times
- 37 Push
- 38 Speaker's name

- 40 It's west of Dublin
- 41 Benedictines
- 42 They're not free of charge
- 46 Press
- 47 Like carpet
- 48 Outburst
- 51 Ring holder
- 53 Synchronized
- 54 Lone Star State sch.
- 55 Christmas stocking item
- 56 Lady of a 1918 hit
- 58 Big name in morning radio
- 59 "won't be afraid" (1961 pop lyric)
- 60 Classic Alan Ladd western
- 63 Dish out messily
- 64 Ruckus
- 65 Place for bouquets
- 66 Delete, with "out"
- 67 Money in the making
- 68 Mrs. Katzenjammer, e.g.
- 69 Wards (off)
- 70 Manner of speech
- 71 Stage of a race
- 76 Bank
- 77 1982 Disney film
- 78 Al from New Orleans
- 79 Cosmetics brand
- 80 Urbane
- 81 Marine filers

- 83 Chesterfield or ulcer
- 84 Mata —
- 85 Way off
- 89 Violate, with "on"
- 90 Cold symptom
- 91 Bibliophile's concern
- 92 Some trim
- 93 Screenwriter Mankiewicz
- 94 Leaves home?
- 96 Hotshot
- 97 Kind of approval
- 98 Buckle opener
- 99 Passion

- 104 It's just for openers
- 105 Unbending
- 106 Shot/shooter
- 107 Branch
- 108 Swellhead's excess
- 110 Anthem preposition
- 111 Letters before many state names
- 112 "Girls" (Kelly musical)
- 114 Tackle moguls
- 115 Shamus
- 116 "— we having fun yet?"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

FAREW COALGAS CHILLS
ADORED ISRAELI RUNOUT
EDDICO THEATRILLISGONE
ELIGHT AMEY IDEAPAN
DER NOSSHOT ATILL SHO
SEE TRETORWILLIS
APTED AND UNI ORATE
SOME EER THEIR NEARS
SIE TICKHEADS BETA
ANY ACHERES DANDSEED
ICI PEERED PELURE TED
LINGERS DELIRIA EIU
SAKI TURSKINNED RUP
KERTS OVATE ESS VANT
ARTIE DUS ANT LINGCO
HANGOVATHEAD AND
SAS TESS HOTNESS APP
TRACTOR LENA NOGAL
YORHAYENYTANKS ROTANA
ESTATE MERCIERS SEARED
SEIDER VASTEST DEPLY

Silent voices of the Holocaust

Two American professors are making sure the stories of deaf survivors are heard,
Michael J. Jordan writes from Budapest

Peter Farago should have died long ago. The Nazis and their twisted theories on eugenics and euthanasia had marked all handicapped Jews for a speedy death. And Farago, deaf since birth, fit the bill.

He arrived at Bergen-Belsen in December 1944 as a quiet, chubby 10-year-old from Hungary and immediately was separated from his mother. Alone and hungry, Farago approached other kids while simultaneously motioning to his mouth and rubbing his stomach.

That's when Pavel saw him. The hearing son of deaf Poles, Pavel, 13, recognized Farago was communicating in sign language. Pavel signed to him the advice that would save his life: don't let the guards see you.

"I don't even know if he knew the reason, just that I shouldn't draw attention to myself," said Farago, now 63 and living in Budapest. "It was in 1946 that I learned about the gas chambers, and that all of those handicapped had been taken there first."

Stories like Farago's are now being told, or signed, in one of the first efforts to document a "manual" history of the Holocaust. The project is the brainchild of two American professors from Gallaudet University in Washington, DC, the only US university for the deaf. The pair is currently touring Central Europe to videotape the testimony of deaf Jews who survived the concentration camps, labor camps and ghettos.

The deaf Holocaust perspective has its unique aspects: while they didn't hear the terrified screams

and crying, they registered the vibrations of exploding bombs and gunshots. And more than other camp prisoners, they required the discreet helping hand of a comrade. An inestimable number of disabled never made it that far.

This video project also is part of a growing, sometimes controversial trend toward identifying each of the groups that suffered at the hands of the Nazis.

In 1933, the Weimar Republic targeted for sterilization those with hereditary physical or mental handicaps who were considered obstacles to creating a master race, ranging from the deaf or blind to the schizophrenic or manic-depressive. That policy soon turned to extermination.

"The deaf are a group that was discriminated against before, after and, of course, during the Holocaust," said Gallaudet professor John Schuchman, a historian of the deaf, and author of a book on deaf Hollywood actors during the era of silent films. "This is a story of the Holocaust, but it's also a story of the deaf community. Various groups are entitled to their history."

Schuchman and his colleague, Donna Ryan, have joined forces with Israel Sela, director of Hungary's American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee office. Sela, who did his doctoral thesis on deafness at Gallaudet, conducted the first census of the deaf community in Israel.

"The deaf survived the war as broken vessels," said Sela, whose hearing-impaired parents provided temporary shelter to deaf Holocaust survivors soon after the

war and helped them find homes, jobs and counseling in Israel. "Society was never aware of their special needs."

One of the first things Sela did upon his arrival in Budapest three years ago was to place a plaque on the site of the former Jewish school for the deaf. It was one of seven such Jewish schools in Central Europe.

Peter Farago was a student at the school in March 1944, when Nazi-backed Hungarian fascists began cleansing the countryside of Jews. In May he and his mother, Anna, 37, were herded into a ghetto in their hometown, Oroshaza, with the community's 900 other Jews.

By June they were aboard a train headed for Auschwitz. But they were "lucky," the tracks through what is now Slovakia had been bombed, forcing them to be rerouted to Austria. They remained in a detention center in Vienna for six months, before

being deported to Bergen-Belsen in December.

There, Pavel took Farago under his wing. Several children were dying around them. So the younger boy followed Pavel's lead, and they signed to each other only when it was safe.

When on line for roll-call each morning, Pavel stood next to Farago, tapping or squeezing his hand to let him know when to respond to his name being called. Grateful for the friendship and guidance, Farago gave Pavel some of his rations of bread or potato.

Once the camp was liberated in March 1945, they parted ways. In the 52 years since, Farago has never attempted to contact Pavel. He does, however, recall him fondly as the tall, thin boy with "beautiful blond hair."

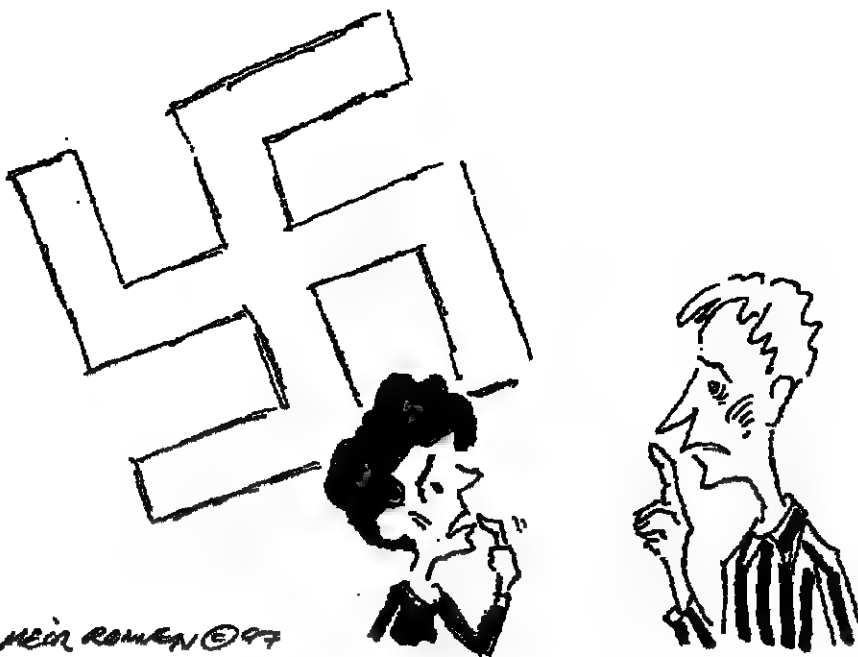
"I don't want to meet him because all the memories would come up," said Farago, who was reunited with his mother in

Hungary after the war. "But I think about him all the time and keep him in my heart."

Presented with many other equally compelling stories, Schuchman and Ryan spent longer than expected in Budapest, the first leg of their trip. More and more deaf survivors kept coming forward. Now they are moving on to continue their work in Prague, Berlin, Cracow and perhaps Warsaw, to conduct some two dozen interviews. The material will be deposited in the archives at Gallaudet.

The duo plans to return for more interviews next summer, then will host an international conference on the deaf and the Holocaust. Ryan also will assist a Holocaust museum in creating a special section for deaf survivors.

"Your stories will become part of our history," Ryan told a gathering of deaf survivors in Budapest recently. "Your stories will be told."



NEER ROMAN © 97

The glory days of Hama'apil

Imagine Maccabi Tel Aviv being relegated someday to basketball's second division. For old-timers, the equivalent happened last year when Hapoel Hama'apil fell out of the premier volleyball league.

This is not a sports story. It's about life as some Israelis still cling to it, about the changed values of our society, about faded ideologies and, if you want to go so far, even the death of old-fashioned patriotism.

Volleyball, until the late-1970s, was immensely popular in this country. Sports pages allotted great tracts of space to league games, and to the exploits of our teams in European tournaments.

The team from Kibbutz Hama'apil, northeast of Netanya, began playing together in the sandbox of the kibbutz nursery.

"It was an organic team," explains Yuval Danieli, a strapping 33-year-old who was one of the stars of yore. "We grew up together, we were from the same place. We had wonderful solidarity, the same mentality, the same slang, the same code. In 1959 we began playing together, informally, and a year later for the first time as a team. In 1963, we beat Ein Shemer for our first national championship."

The boys from Hama'apil would go on to win the championship 14 years in a row. The girls grabbed some headlines of their own, winning seven state titles. Danieli's wife Leah was on the national team.

They were Israeli heroes, but don't think it went to their heads. They were kibbutzniks, in the socialist heyday.

"We played for pride. There was a feeling of intense patriotism. For all of us it was a way of life, part of our identity. In a way, it's what kept us here."

Even when outsiders began playing for us, in the '70s, they weren't paid; they would do anything to wear the Hama'apil jersey. It was all for pride.

"Today?" Danieli glowers. "Today, they're all hired Bulgarians; the team that pays the most for outsiders wins. Now, it's 'our Bulgarians' against 'their Bulgarians.' The name 'Hapoel Hama'apil' is fictitious now. In the old days, Hama'apil was you."

He shakes his head, but without sadness. "I'm not interested in volleyball anymore."

Their coach, still revered by the players as a legend, was Zvi Sinto, who died in 1969 of a heart attack at the age of 35.

"Zvi Sinto made us. His philosophy was that we must win - but not at all costs. The human side was more important. If even our best player was out of line, Sinto wouldn't let him play."

DANIELI. A throwback to flag-waving socialism, seers red at the disloyalty of professional sport. It was bad enough when a few volleyballers began to play for pay. In the 1970s.

"Now, a player will jump from Hapoel to Maccabi, for more money, and no one even cares," he says derisively.

In his day, the kibbutz ethic was all-powerful. Even after winning a dozen or so titles, the best reward the players could hope for was a speech commending them.

"I remember, back in '65, the day we played the championship final, I worked in the banana fields - very hard, physical work. It was unthinkable to take time off to prepare, or to rest."

"We weren't given special privileges; of course, we didn't expect any. Though if we had to travel north for a game, we were granted a two- or three-hour 'vacation.' But, you know, we were all equal, and our free time, too, was equal."

After many years, with the times a-changing, the kibbutz began to relax its austere conditions. "Yeah. If we had an

important game, we might get half a day off."

There was not even a budget for travel expenses. A team bus? They couldn't even spend on a public bus to get to a road game.

"We'd pile onto the banana truck - sometimes with a load of bananas - or we'd hitchhike."

The team regularly represented Israel in the European championships, once finishing as high as eighth.

Danieli smiles. "It was a kibbutz, so we had to give everyone a chance to go with us, as

delegation head. The members would be asked, one by one, if they wanted to accompany us. It didn't matter if they knew anything about the sport, though. One time, a Turkish member agreed to head our team at a tournament in Turkey, but he spent all his time at the bazaar."

When Europeans came here to play, the kibbutz would host them. Nothing fancy, of course, but the visitors loved the friendly homeliness.

"Now it's all synthetic: guests come, they're put up in a hotel."

DANIELI STRESSES that, despite their fame and success in sport, the players kept it all in careful perspective.

"It was, after all, only sport. We were well-rounded individuals. I also had my work, in the banana fields, and later, in avocados. And my other interests, art and cooking."

Danieli, a renowned artist, displays a thick file of newspaper clippings and exhibit notices. He's a bit embarrassed to admit he left the fields for an office job - he's now secretary of the kibbutz - and not altogether delighted that his 12-year-old son Omer has forsaken volleyball for basketball. The kid's room is plastered with posters of NBA stars, while photos of Dad (and Mom) are relegated to dusty albums.

But Dad forgives: he proudly, if apologetically, shows off Omer's basketball trophies. There seems to be a touch of ideological rebellion in Omer's choice.

Strolling through the kibbutz, lovely and lush though it is suffering economic hardship, Danieli reflects on past and present, victory and loss. "I suppose I'm a realistic nostalgic, so I see the differences. What ails the kibbutzim was unavoidable: the young don't want the umbrella of absolute collectivism. They want to see how far they can go in life. They want openness. I blame it all on the telecommunications revolution."

There is no more ideological motivation - to dedicate your life to the fields, to play volleyball for pride rather than profit.

"We used to play outdoors, in the rain, the cold, the heat, the dark, and the entire kibbutz would stand at the sidelines, cheering every point. We played on a hard, gravel-embedded surface that shredded our knees and elbows."

He steps onto the "new" court, built almost 30 years ago, when the team was already a national institution.

"Huh. Look at this," Danieli toes a faint, faded yellow line. "You can hardly see the volleyball markings anymore."

There are black lines demarking the court, but they're for basketball and soccer. Garbage litters the sidelines, where their adoring fans used to stand.

"You know, league rules now forbid playing outdoors, so Hapoel Hama'apil doesn't even play its home games at Hama'apil anymore. Imagine!"

A bunch of outsiders, playing who-knows-where, for money, in the second division. "Ah, who cares," he says.

Danieli steps off the court, and goes home.

Not Page One



Sam Orbaum

Death guru Kubler-Ross can't wait to die

By PATRICIA COMBES

Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, the Swiss-born psychiatrist who literally wrote the book on death and dying, looks forward to conversing in the next life with a man she avoided in this one - Carl Jung.

"When I die, the first person I want to talk to is Jung," said Kubler-Ross, whose first book, *On Death and Dying*, catapulted her to international fame. She was interviewed at her home on a secluded desert road outside Scottsdale, Arizona.

Because she never intended to become a psychiatrist, she said, she did not approach the famous Swiss psychiatrist when she saw him walking around Zurich while she was a first-year medical student there.

"I avoided him," she recalled with a laugh, her voice becoming stronger in spite of the half-dozen strokes she has suffered. "I was afraid that if I ever talked to this guy I would become a shrink. And it was the last thing in the world I ever wanted to be."

At age 73, Kubler-Ross believes she is at the end of her life, which prompted her to write her latest book, *The Wheel of Life: A Memoir of Living and Dying*, published this

year. With a strong belief in an afterlife and deep spiritual convictions, she said she is not afraid to die.

"After working with dying patients for half a century, I can't wait," Kubler-Ross said as she stretched out in a reclining chair, chain-smoking Dunhill cigarettes between sips of black tea. "There is nothing to be afraid of."

Kubler-Ross earned a reputation in the field of death and dying from her lectures to medical and theology students at the University of Chicago in the 1960s. Dr. Edward Senay, a professor in the university's psychiatry department, recalled how her lectures quickly grew in popularity.

"She was a very charismatic speaker," said Senay, who worked with Kubler-Ross in a psychiatric counseling service at the university hospital. "There were several people [working in death and dying] at the time but they never crossed the line from the medical community to the community at large. She did that."

Kubler-Ross' work also sparked controversy. In her memoirs she wrote of physicians who tried to keep her from talking to their patients or recruiting them to appear at

her lectures.

She also raised eyebrows in the psychiatric community with her interest in near-death experiences, life after death and spirituality.

Later she encountered virulent opposition from local residents when she tried to establish a home for children with AIDS at her farm in Virginia. That project was thwarted when her farm burned in a fire she believes was set by arsonists.

"I always did what felt right, not what other people expected of me," Kubler-Ross said. "I have never listened to other people's opinions." Now she believes she has one more lesson to learn before she dies or, as she puts it, "graduates."

"There are two questions you are asked [when you die]," Kubler-Ross said. "How much love have you been able to give and receive, and how much service have you rendered? Love to give, I pass. Love to receive, I fail. So that's why I'm still hanging around."

Looking back on her life, she believes she has certainly passed the test on service given. She counts as her No. 1 accomplishment helping to establish hospices for terminally ill patients.

Kubler-Ross, no question, has been the intellectual inspiration for the hospice movement in this country," said Jack Gordon, president of the Hospice Foundation of America.

She also helped to bring humane treatment to prisoners with AIDS, worked on behalf of children with AIDS and established "ET Centers" - named for the character in her favorite movie, *E.T.* - *The Extra-Terrestrial* - that bring toddlers and the elderly together under the same roof.

In the living room of her white stucco house in the Arizona desert, as birds fluttered in a feeder at the window, Kubler-Ross pondered what she regretted not having accomplished in her life.

"I'm sorry I don't play an instrument. I would love to play and sing," she said, looking across the room where a family photograph showed her ex-husband Manny Ross, who has since died, her son, Ken, a photographer, and her daughter, Barbara, a clinical psychologist.

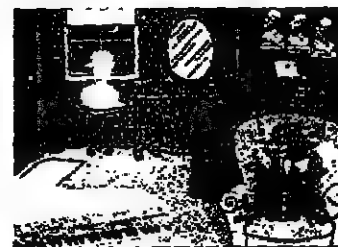
"[When I die] I'm going to dance first in all the galaxies - I'm going to play and dance and sing." (Reuters)

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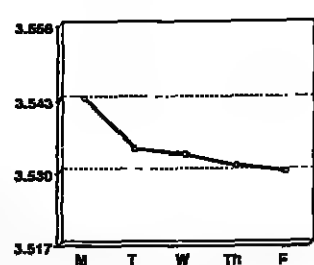
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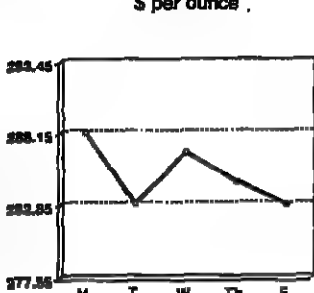
MARKETS

in brief

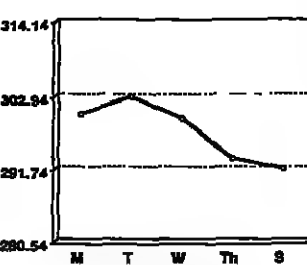
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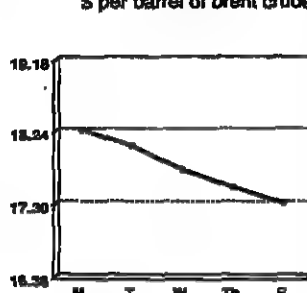
GOLD



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IEC raises \$425m. in US bonds

Israel Electric Corporation last week raised \$425 million — about \$300m. through the issuance of 30-year bonds and the remainder through the sale of 10-year bonds. The IEC initially estimated it would raise \$250m. as part of its 12-month plan to raise money for long-term projects. *David Harris*

Tichon calls for capital investment aid rethink

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon recently called on the government and the Knesset to revamp the law encouraging capital investment, which is "old and machronistic" and not suited to the needs of high-tech industry. Tichon said this during a tour of Jerusalem's high-tech companies, including ECI Telecom, AVX-Israel, and Rocard International. *Judy Siegel*

Panel to explore new central-bank bill

By DAVID HARRIS

The cabinet yesterday approved the creation of a committee to formulate a new Bank of Israel Law.

The committee members, to be headed by a retired judge, have yet to be selected.

The decision was welcomed by the central bank as "a very positive step." The committee will examine all the functions of the bank and decide how best it should operate, while ensuring its independence from the government or any other body.

ment or any other body.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu will appoint the members of the committee, which will make its recommendation no later than June 30, 1998.

The proposal was brought to the government by Netanyahu, Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi. The move came after Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel said any reform in the central bank should originate from the government.

During the summer, Labor MK and former finance minister Avraham Shohat attempted to introduce legislation on the subject.

In May the central bank called for the creation of a new basic law for the bank and a board of monetary experts to help the government achieve the government-set monetary targets.

The bank sees the need for the following key criterion to be met by the committee's recommendations:

- The guarantee of full independence for

the central bank to enable it to achieve the desired stability.

- The guarantee of transparency and accountability to the government, Knesset and public.

- The establishment of a decision-making framework within the bank. This includes the creation of a monetary board, to be headed by the governor and comprising experts independent of the bank.

In July, the bank handed to Netanyahu its recommendations for the new law.

Ind. exports up 7.2% in Nov.

Industrial exports, including diamonds, totalled \$1.65 billion in November, a 7.2 percent increase over the same period a year ago. Exports of polished diamonds totalled \$391 million last month, a 0.8% increase over November 1996, while industrial exports not including diamonds totalled \$1.26m., a 9.4% increase over the same period one year ago.

While the high-tech sector and some textile and clothing exporters noted an increase in sales abroad, other traditional industries registered a decrease.

Jennifer Friedlin

Israel Chemicals subsidiary wins \$60m. desalination deal

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Israel Desalination Engineering said yesterday it has won a contract to supply six desalination plants for \$60 million to two Indian refineries.

The company, which is a subsidiary of Israel Chemicals, won two international tenders. IDE will supply the plants to new refineries which are currently being built in the Jamnagar state in northwestern India.

In a statement, IDE said the first installation, which weighs 1,300

tonnes, will be sent to India next week in a ship that was leased especially for this assignment.

Four of the plants would be installed in the world's largest refinery, Reliance, which is currently being built by the American company Bechtel Group in a total investment of \$2.5 billion. The two other plants will be sent to a different refinery operated by the Swiss-Swedish engineering company ABB.

In a statement, CEO David Waxman said IDE recently won another contract for the supply of

six desalination plants to a power plant in Sardinia. In addition, the company sold facilities to the Puerto Rican plant of Enron.

The company said it is currently holding 30 percent of the world market for supply of water to the industry, based on the desalination of sea water.

IDE is currently working together with its American partners on the development of the world's largest desalination facility here. This plant will supply 300,000 cubic-meters a day of drinking water to 1.5 million people. The company has so far supplied 300 desalination plants to 40 countries.

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TAN ADV.

THE DIFFERENCE
IS IN THE MONEY



A Danish handball supporter yesterday places her country's flag at the spot where two of her compatriots were stabbed to death by a drunken German man on Saturday.

Stabbing deaths overshadow Berlin handball tournament

BERLIN (Reuters) — Denmark beat Norway to win the women's world handball championship yesterday but the tournament will be remembered only for the fatal stabbing of two Danish fans in a apparent drunken row with a German man on Saturday.

Olympic champions Denmark won 33-20 in front of 7,500 subdued spectators in Berlin's Max Schmeling stadium. Security had been tightened and an alcohol ban imposed on the final day of the event.

The Danes pulled away to win with relative ease in the second half after leading by just 14-11 at halftime. Camilla Andersen top scored with seven goals.

The German national team had earlier in the day claimed third place after beating Russia 27-25 in a closely-fought play-off.

Following the stabbing incident at the stadium on Saturday, tournament officials were uncertain whether the final matches would go ahead.

It was later decided that the games would go ahead but that formal celebrations at the venue would not take place.

German police said earlier yesterday they had issued a warrant for the arrest of a 48-year-old German man suspected of stabbing the two fans during Denmark's 32-22 semifinal win over Russia on Saturday.

The two victims were aged 34 and 39. One died instantly while the other died later despite receiving medical attention.

Finn Ketola wins Eilat Club Hotel title

By HEATHER CHAIT

The sun returned to Eilat yesterday, shining directly on Thomas Ketola of Finland as he won the final of the \$50,000 Club Hotel Eilat Tennis Challenger.

Ketola, ranked 184 in the ATP Tour rankings, survived a spunky performance from South Africa's Neville Godwin to win in straight sets, 6-3, 6-4, taking just 70 minutes.

As he had disposed of Israel's Noam Behr in the semifinal with his steady defense tactics, so Ketola outlasted the pugnacious and quickfire style of Godwin, whose concentration slipped once too often during the match.

One break of serve in each set was all Ketola required, backed by his own reliable serve and volley game, to clinch the match and the \$7,200 winner's check.

The first set was saw the players evenly matched but as Godwin felt the title slipping away, his level of play deteriorated.

Although Ketola mostly benefited from Godwin's whimsical strokes, he also delivered some very impressive serves for which Godwin had no answer.

Godwin attracted the support of the 350-strong crowd for his cheeky drop shots and lithe mobility on court, but this 22-year-old's game needs sharpening if he intends to improve his current world ranking of 225.

The doubles title went to Patrick Baur of Germany and Andrei Cherkasov of Russia who beat the Dutch duo of Sander Groen and Rogier Wassen 6-3, 7-6(4).

The tournament is set to become an annual event with prize money of \$75,000 next year.

SPORTS in brief

Ra'anana XV too good for Rishon

Ra'anana scored four tries in their 35-7 rout of Rishon LeZion in the weekend's main league rugby fixture which was played at the Sportek.

The try scorers were fly-half Darren Pincus, eighth-man Mark Davis, wing Effie Waknin and center Steven Freund. Scrum-half Darryl Edelstein kicked three conversions and three penalties.

For Rishon, center Misha Landesman scored a try converted by fly-half Ori Waldman.

In the north, Hapoel Galil Elyon trounced Kibbutz Yizre'el 63-10, but in the tables were turned in the under-16 game where Yizre'el beat Galil 43-0.

Joel Gordin

Russian weightlifter breaks two world records

CHIANG MAI, Thailand (AP) — Russia's Andrei Chernerkhin broke two world records yesterday, the last day of competition at the World Weightlifting Championships yesterday.

As expected, China dominated the meet, taking the most gold and total medals in both the men's and women's competitions. Chinese men captured 21 medals including 10 golds, and Chinese women took 23 medals, including 16 golds.

Chernerkhin, 25, broke the world mark in the clean and jerk for the over-108-kilogram class with a lift of 262.5 kgs, 2.5 kgs better than the previous record of 260.0 he set at the Olympics last year.

His winning total was 462.5 kgs, 5 kgs better than the record of 457.5 set by Aleksander Kulovich of Belarus.

Becker falls to Krajicek at Mandela final

CAPE TOWN (AP) — Richard Krajicek worked hard to beat fellow Wimbledon champion Boris Becker 3-10, 11-9, 10-6 in the final best-of-three champions tie-breakers at the Mandela Tribute tennis tournament yesterday.

Becker took the first game and was cruising with a 7-4 lead in the second when Krajicek took control.

Earlier in the day, Krajicek beat Todd Martin 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Becker won Saturday's fund raising match over Andre Agassi.

The tournament drew top names in tennis. The players met President Nelson Mandela at a banquet on Saturday.

Becker said he was tongue-tied at the banquet.

"The two hours he was sitting at the table I could hardly eat," Becker said. "I was just staring at him and in awe of him."

The three-day tournament was a fund raiser for children.

Indian cricket board threatens to sue Prabhakar

CALCUTTA (AP) — The Board for Control of Cricket in India may take legal action against a former player Manoj Prabhakar, whose accusations that teammates took bribes to lose matches was rejected in a judge's probe, cricket officials said yesterday.

Prabhakar had alleged that that a teammate offered him 2.5 million rupees (\$70,000) to make sure India lost to rivals Pakistan in the Singer Cup one-day match in Sri Lanka in 1994. The match was washed out by rain.

Former Supreme Court Chief Justice Y.B. Chandrachud, who was appointed by the board to probe the charges said Prabhakar's allegations were an outburst that came in reaction to being dropped from the team and to losing a local political election.

Jayant Lele, the board's secretary said Prabhakar's allegations had brought the Indian cricket board to disrepute and they were contemplating legal action against him.

Duke loses, arch-rivals Tar Heels drop Princeton

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) — The North Carolina Tar Heels will likely move to the top of the college basketball polls after the nail-biting 50-42 victory over No. 22 Princeton Saturday.

Duke's 81-73 loss earlier in the day at Michigan should drop the top-ranked Blue Devils and give arch-rival No. 2 North Carolina (10-0) its first No. 1 ranking since the final Associated Press poll of the 1993-94 season.

The Tar Heels, idle for a week and playing their first home game since November 22, fell behind 11-4 and trailed the Tigers (7-1) for all but 2 minutes of the first half.

The second half wasn't much better for the Tar Heels until Vince Carter's follow shot with 7:16 left gave North Carolina the lead for good at 37-35, a hoop that ignited an 8-0 run.

Shammond Williams led the Tar Heels with 19 points.

No. 3 Kansas 103

Middle Tenn. 68

Rafael LaFrentz scored 20 points and Billy Thomas became host Kansas' career leader in 3-pointers.

Kansas (11-1) won its 51st straight home game, the longest current streak in Division I.

Middle Tennessee (4-2) had won four straight after an opening loss to North Carolina.

Leading 51-34 at halftime, Kansas took control with a 16-2 run over the first five minutes of the second half.

Thomas' 201 3-pointers moved him ahead of Terry Brown in the University of Kansas record book.

Auylon Tesch led Middle Tennessee with 17 points and nine rebounds.

No. 19 Maryland 104

Md.-Baltimore County 66

Laron Profit scored 16 of his 18 points in the first half as the host Terrapins beat their in-state rival for the ninth time in as many meetings.

Sarunas Jasikevicius had 18 points and eight assists for the Terrapins (5-3), who extended their non-conference home winning streak to a staggering 56 games.

Kennedy Okafor scored 20 points and Rich Giddens had 16 for the Retrievers (2-5), who had gone 57 games without giving up 100 points since a 102-77 loss to Maryland in 1994.

Profit made all six of his field goal attempts. Jasikevicius went 5-for-6 and the Terrapins shot 70 percent in taking a 67-36 halftime lead.

No. 12 UCLA 120

Cal SL-Fullerton 91

J.R. Henderson scored 23 points

and Toby Bailey added 19 as No. 12 UCLA started four freshmen and still routed visiting Cal State-Fullerton.

The young lineup — a UCLA first — resulted from coach Steve Lavin yanking Henderson and Kris Johnson, both seniors, and freshman Baron Davis for being late to practice.

Henderson and Johnson were tardy during the week and Davis was late to the Saturday morning shootaround.

The Bruins (4-1) built an early double-digit lead and handed the Titans (4-3), who have never beaten UCLA, their second-worst defeat in the eight-game series.

Pacific 85,

No. 18 Fresno St. 74

Adam Jacobsen scored a career-high 31 points, including seven 3-pointers in the first half as Pacific won its 23rd straight at home.

Jacobsen, Pacific's career leader in 3-pointers, continually frustrated the Bulldogs' pressing defense by connecting from the perimeter.

When Fresno State tried to slow down Jacobsen, the Tigers (8-3) turned to their 7-foot center, Michael Olowokandi, who scored 14 of his 23 points in the second half. Jason Williams added 17 points.

Rafael LaFrentz's 21 points led Fresno State (3-3), which lost its third straight.

No. 8 Purdue 107

San Francisco 82

Chad Austin scored 29 points to lead No. 8 host Purdue to the Boilermaker Invitational championship.

Purdue (8-2) has won six consecutive titles and is 15-1 in the tournament's eight-year history.

San Francisco (5-2) was led by Hakeem Ward with 25 points.

Austin was named the tournament's MVP and was joined on the all-tournament team by Purdue's Brian Cardinal, Mike Robinson and Jaraan Cornell and San Francisco's Ward and Zerrick Campbell.

Robinson finished with 22 points and Cardinal had 14.

San Francisco led 46-45 at halftime, but the Boilermakers broke the game open early in the second half with a 16-2 run. Robinson, who finished with 22 points, triggered the rally.

No. 21 Mississippi 71

Wichita St. 48

Ansu Sessay and reserve guard Jozeen Darby scored 15 points each for visiting Ole Miss (5-1), which had little trouble against the less experienced Shockers (2-6), who trailed from the start in dropping their sixth in a row.

Mississippi led 30-20 at the half and went up 38-27 before starting



SOARING HAWK — Jayhawks' Rafael LaFrentz scores 20 in Kansas's 103-68 blowout win over Middle Tennessee on Saturday.

a 9-2 run with 15:55 to play.

Anthony Boone opened the spurt with a dunk and Darby and Jason Flanigan followed with 3-pointers. Flanigan hit a free throw to finish the run, putting the

Rebels up 47-29 with 11:46 left.

No. 23 Georgia 55

East Carolina 54

Badi Oliver made a free throw with no time remaining as the visiting Bulldogs survived bad shoot-

ing and 16 turnovers.

Freshman Jumaane Jones led Georgia (7-2) with 12 points.

Raphael Edwards, who had 22 points for East Carolina (4-4), missed a 12-footer with six sec-

Australia says Venables will stay

SYDNEY (Reuters) — Former England manager Terry Venables will remain as coach of Australia at least until his contract expires next July, Soccer Australia said yesterday.

Venables said last month he was devastated by Australia's failure to qualify for next year's World Cup in France, with local media speculating the Englishman would seek to end his 18-month contract early.

Venables was also subsequently linked with Nigeria, who have qualified for the World Cup but are without a manager.

"Venables has told Soccer Australia he is prepared to carry on as Australian coach and not accept alternative positions for next year's World Cup finals," Soccer Australia said.

"Soccer Australia was prepared to release Venables for a period of time, especially since Nigeria has qualified for the World Cup and Australia has not," it said in a statement.

Australia failed to qualify for the World Cup after a 3-3 draw on aggregate from their two qualifying matches with Iran.

The Iraqis progressed by scoring more away goals.

Soccer Australia chairman David Hill said a new contract would be negotiated early next year, adding he hoped Venables would remain as Australian coach at least until the 2002 World Cup in Japan and South Korea.

"That's the intention," Hill told reporters. "He wants to do it, and we want him to do it."

"The guy clearly is a phenomenal coach," Hill said the new contract would allow Venables to pursue other interests when Australia were not involved in matches.

Venables is chairman of English first division club Portsmouth and has reportedly rejected offers from Portugal and Spain in recent months.

Hill said Soccer Australia would consider allowing Venables to coach in the Premier League, provided he was available whenever Australia needed him.

"Most international programs take place when the Premier League is suspended anyway," Hill said.

Venables and the Soccercoos are in Saudi Arabia, where they opened their Confederations Cup campaign on Friday with a 3-1 win over Mexico.

The Australians are unbeaten in 15 matches under Venables.

How the college basketball Top 25 fared Saturday

1. Duke (9-1) lost to Michigan 81-73.

Next vs. Mercer, Sunday, Dec. 21.

2. North Carolina (10-0) beat No. 22 Princeton 50-42.

Next vs. Hampton, tomorrow.

3. Kansas (11-1) beat Middle Tennessee State 103-68.

Next vs. Pepperdine, Thursday.

4. Kentucky (8-1) beat No. 24 Georgia Tech 85-71.

Next vs. Tulsa, Saturday.

5. South Carolina (5-0) did not play.

Next at No. 17 Clemson, Wednesday.

6. Arizona (7-2) beat Coppin State 99-62.

Next at No. 16 Florida State, Tuesday, Dec. 23.

7. Xavier (6-1) beat Cincinnati 88-68.

Next vs. No. 8 Purdue, Saturday.

8. Purdue (8-2) beat San Francisco 107-82.

Next vs. No. 7 Xavier, Saturday.

9. Utah (8-0) did not play.

Next vs. Oregon State, Saturday.

10. Iowa (7-1) beat Iowa State 60-59.

Next at Puerto Rico-Playa Vista, Sunday, Dec. 21.

11. Stanford (5-0) did not play.

Next at San Diego State, tomorrow.

12. UCLA (4-1) beat Cal State-Fullerton 120-91.

Next vs. North Arizona, Thursday.

13. Connecticut (8-1) did not play.

Next vs. North Carolina-Wilmington, Saturday.

14. New Mexico (6-1) did not play.

Next vs. Texas Tech, Saturday.

15. Arkansas (7-0) did not play.

Next vs. Connecticut, Thursday.

16. Florida State (6-1) did not play.

Next vs. Florida, Sunday.

17. Clemson (5-3) lost to Illinois 71-61.

Next vs. No. 5 South Carolina, Wednesday.

18. Fresno State (3-3) lost to Pacific 85-74.

Next vs. St. Mary's, Calif., tomorrow.

19. Maryland (5-3) beat Maryland-Baltimore County 104-66.

Next vs. North Carolina-Asheville, Monday, Dec. 22.

20. Temple (6-1) beat DePaul 74-63.

Next at Villanova, tomorrow.

21. Mississippi (5-1) beat Wichita State 71-48.

Next vs. Belmont, Wednesday.

22. Princeton (7-1) lost to No. 2 North Carolina 50-42.

Next vs. No. 25 Wake Forest, Friday.

23. Georgia (7-2) beat East Carolina 55-54.

Next vs. West Virginia, Saturday.

24. Georgia Tech (5-2) lost to No. 4 Kentucky 85-71.

Next vs. Coastal Carolina, Wednesday.

25. Wake Forest (6-1) did not play.

Next at Marshall, Wednesday.

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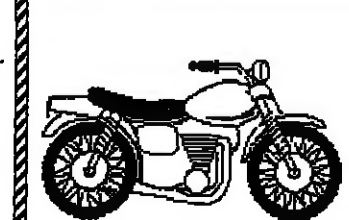
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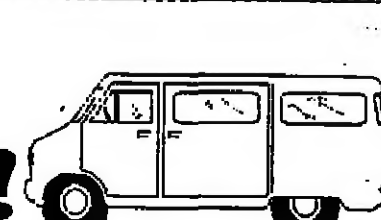
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Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

Hap. J'lem tops Hap. TA in State Cup

By ELI GRONER

Defending basketball State Cup holders Hapoel Jerusalem and favorites Maccabi Tel Aviv made solid strides towards semifinal appearances in this year's competition with victories in the first leg of the quarterfinals last night. Kiryat Motzkin and Givat Shmuel got a leg up on their opponents - Hapoel Holon and Galil Elyon - with victories last night as well.

The rematch will take place on Sunday.

Hap. Jerusalem 74

Hap. Tel Aviv 67

At halftime, Jerusalem's foreigners had combined for a paltry four points. However, strong second-half showings by Radisav Curcic and Kenny Williams (12 points apiece) helped the visitors overcome an 18-point deficit en route to the victory.

The foreigners' solid play in the paint forced Tel Aviv's defense to collapse inside, opening up three-point opportunities for Adi Gordon and Motti Daniel (three apiece).

In the first half, the cream of the second division was having its way with the defending Cup holders. Curtis McKents had 16 first-half points and Jonathan Roberts - amidst speculation that he would be released before the game - chipped in 10. But too many Tel Aviv turnovers enabled Jerusalem to overcome a deficit that reached 54-36 at one point.

Daniel paced the victors with 18 points.

Macc. Tel Aviv 96

Macc. Ramat Gan 71

Seven players scored between eight and 18 points for the defending champions, in a game that had a decidedly different flavor than their league matchup last week.

Derrick Sharp led Tel Aviv with 18.

In other games, it was Kiryat Motzkin 73, Hapoel Holon 68 and Givat Shmuel 71, Galil Elyon 64.

SCOREBOARD

SOCCER - Australia drew 0-0 with Brazil in their Confederations' Cup Group A match yesterday in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

CRICKET - Pakistan beat India by four wickets in the Champions Trophy yesterday in Sharjah. Scores - India 239-7, Pakistan 243-6.

Jets' defense blows out Buccaneers, 31-0

EAST RUTHERFORD, (AP) - Who needs an offense when you're busy running interceptions and kickoffs into the end zone? Otis Smith, often beleaguered and burned in pass coverage, returned interceptions 45 and 51 yards for touchdowns yesterday, leading the New York Jets past the Tampa Bay Buccaneers 31-0.

Rookie Leon Johnson added a 101-yard kickoff return to open the second half as the Jets (9-6) stayed alive in the playoff race with a stunning victory one week after their worst performance of the season, a 22-14 loss to Indianapolis.

With those same Colts shocking Miami 41-0 yesterday, the Jets can make the playoffs with a win at Detroit in the finale. They clinched their first winning season since 1988.

The Bucs (9-6) can clinch the playoffs with a win at home next week against the Bears or a loss by Carolina in one of its two final games.

The Bucs couldn't penetrate New York's makeshift offensive line and generated only 111 yards on offense, 21 passing.

Smith became the first Jet to score twice on interceptions in a game. His first score came after Trent Dilfer's pass was tipped by receiver Reidel Anthony directly to Smith. The second, less than five minutes later, was much easier as Dilfer, playing on a sore ankle, threw a weak pass on which Smith cut in front of Anthony for his sixth interception and third TD of the season.

Bengals 31, Cowboys 24

Visiting Dallas was eliminated from playoff contention with a game that mirrored their season: a good start, a quick fade and a comeback that wasn't nearly good enough.

Boomer Esiason threw two touchdown passes as the Cincinnati Bengals overcame a Dallas-dominated first quarter by scoring 31 consecutive points and holding on for a 31-24 victory.

Dallas (6-9) let a 10-point first-quarter lead slip away. With it went the Cowboys' already minuscule chance of making the playoffs for a seventh consecutive season.

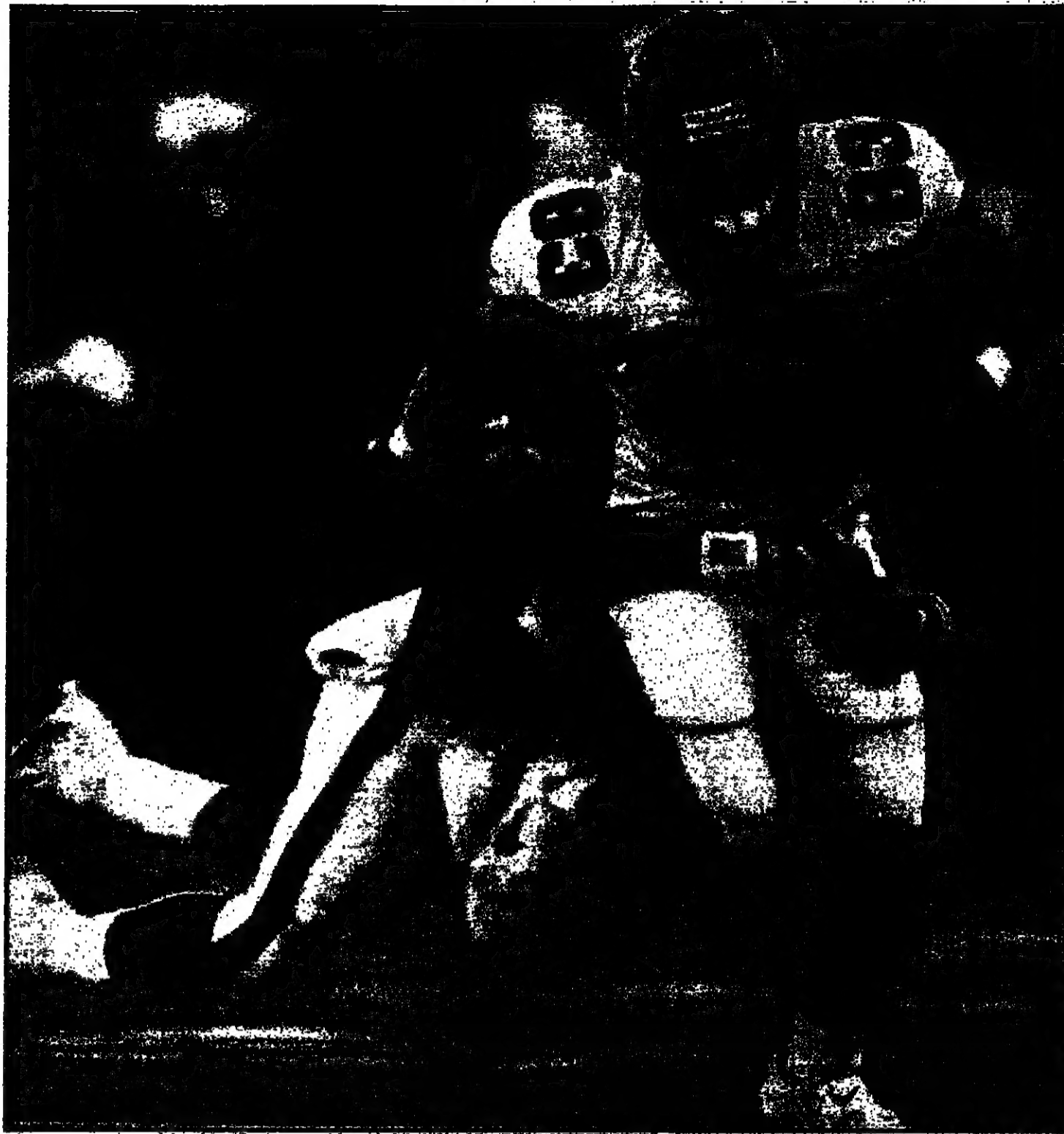
Instead, the team that has won three Super Bowls this decade has its first losing record since 1990, when it went 7-9.

Jaguars 20, Bills 14

Host Jacksonville made it to the playoffs, but once again it wasn't easy.

Mark Brunell threw for 317 yards and ran for a 13-yard touchdown as Jacksonville clinched a postseason spot.

The Jaguars had a 17-3 lead before Buffalo cut the margin to 17-14 in the fourth quarter. Backup Alex Van Pelt led the Bills on an 80-yard drive that ended in Antowain Smith's 1-yard touch-



PULLING HIS WEIGHT - Jaguars TE Pete Mitchell carries Bills safety Henry Jones after a second-quarter catch. Jacksonville beat the Bills 20-14 to clinch a playoff spot. (AP)

down with 8:03 remaining and a 2-point conversion pass to Eric Moulds.

But the Jaguars' Mike Hollis answered with a 47-yard FG.

Saturday

Steelers 24, Patriots 21

Pittsburgh quarterback Kordell Stewart led visiting Pittsburgh to a miracle overtime victory over New England thanks in part to a catastrophic blunder by Drew Bledsoe. Coupled with the Jets win over Tampa Bay, the Pats'

playoff hopes look slim.

Stewart completed a pair of crucial passes in overtime to set up Norm Johnson's 31-yard field goal for the game-winner.

Pittsburgh, which trailed 14-0 in the second quarter, was behind 21-13 just outside the two-minute warning in the fourth quarter when Bledsoe threw an interception to Kevin Heary at the Patriots' 41-yard line.

After making the interception, Heary was being brought down at

the 18 with two minutes remaining.

On 4th-and-7, Stewart threw along the right sideline for Yancey Thigpen, who made a diving grab at the 4 with a minute to go.

Two plays later, Stewart rolled right and tossed a one-yard touchdown pass to tight end Mark Bruener, cutting the deficit to 21-19 with 38 seconds remaining.

Needing two points to tie, Stewart rolled right again on the conversion attempt and hit Thigpen who made the sliding

grab in the back of the end zone.

In an earlier game Saturday, which was reported in yesterday's edition, the Giants beat the Redskins 30-10 and clinched their first playoff berth in four years.

Last night's early results:
Atlanta 20, Philadelphia 17
Cincinnati 31, Dallas 24
Indianapolis 41, Miami 0
Detroit 14, Minnesota 13
Jets 31, Tampa Bay 0
Jacksonville 20, Buffalo 14
Baltimore 21, Tennessee 19

Bolton, Derby in wild, 3-all draw

LONDON (Reuters) - Bolton came from 3-1 down to force an entertaining 3-3 home draw with Derby yesterday and claim a vital Premier League point.

After an open but goalless first half, Bolton went ahead with a 50th-minute penalty by Alan Thompson.

But the goal spurred Derby, who equalized through Italian midfielder Stefano Eranio five minutes later.

Derby then produced a great spell of neat passing that resulted in two goals for fellow Italian Francesco Baiano in the 64th and 69th minutes.

Welsh international striker Nathan Blake headed in a Thompson cross to reduce the deficit and Jamie Pollock slammed in a 77th-minute equalizer.

The point allowed Bolton to climb above Southampton into 16th place - one of three teams on 20 points. Derby moved up one position to seventh.

Second-place Nottingham Forest stayed on 42 points after a 2-1 loss at Wolverhampton. Dougie Freedman and Carl Robinson scored for Wolves and Andy Johnson got an 84th minute goal for Nottingham Forest.

In Scotland, Celtic defeated Hearts 1-0 and Dunfermline drew 0-0 with Rangers. Hearts lead with 37 points to 36 for Rangers.

Manchester United play Aston Villa today.

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Team	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Man United	17	11	4	2	43	37
Blackburn	16	10	6	2	33	36
Chelsea	13	11	2	5	41	35
Leeds	16	9	4	5	26	31
Arsenal	16	8	6	4	32	31
Liverpool	17	8	4	5	38	28
Leicester	16	7	6	5	23	27
Derby	17	8	3	6	33	27
Newcastle	16	7	7	5	20	25
West Ham	16	8	1	9	25	25
Wimbledon	16	6	5	7	19	23
Aston Villa	17	6	3	8	19	23
Sheff Wednesday	16	6	3	9	30	21
Coventry	16	4	8	6	17	24
Crystal Palace	16	5	5	8	17	20
Bolton	16	4	8	6	16	27
Southampton	16	6	1	11	22	19
Tottenham	16	4	4	10	14	32
Everton	16	3	5	16	27	14
Barnsley	16	4	2	12	17	47

Team	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Middlesbrough	22	13	6	3	39	47
Not Forest	22	12	6	4	35	42
Sheff United	22	11	6	3	33	41
West Brom	22	12	4	6	25	39
Charlton	22	11	5	6	41	38
Swindon	22	11	4	7	31	38
Sheff Wed	21	10	6	5	32	36
Sheff Wed	22	10	5	7	38	35
Wolverhampton	22	10	5	7	29	35
Bradford	22	8	9	5	22	31
Birmingham	22	8	7	7	23	31
Norwich	22	8	5	9	23	29
QPR Rangers	22	7	6	9	27	27
Port Vale	22	7	5	10	25	27
Spoke	22	7	5	10	24	26
Ipswich	21	5	9	7	24	24
Reading	22	6	4	10	21	24
Oxford United	22	6	5	11	27	23
Tranmere	21	4	4	11	28	22
Crewe	22	6	3	13	26	21
Man City	22	5	6	11	24	27
Bury	22	4	9	9	21	21
Preston	21	5	5	11	26	20

Premier League scorers after Sunday's match

11 - John Harrison (West Ham United), Chris Sutton (Blackburn Rovers), Francesco Baiano (Derby County)

10 - Dennis Bergkamp (Arsenal), Andy Cole (Manchester United), Ian Wright (Arsenal)

9 - Kevin Gallacher (Blackburn Rovers)

8 - Rod Wallace (Leeds United)

7 - Kevin Davies (Southampton), Teddy Sheringham (Manchester United), Dion Dublin (Coventry City), Gianfranco Zola (Chelsea), Robbie Fowler (Liverpool), Paolo Canio (Sheff Wednesday)



Beantown Heaven

NL Cy Young winner Pedro Martinez sports a big smile at a Red Sox news conference after the formal announcement of his 6-year, \$75 million signing. In other news, the Orioles signed free agent pitcher Doug Drabek to a one-year, \$1.8m contract and five-time All-Star Joe Carter to a \$3.3m, one-year pact; the Mets acquired Rich Becker from the Twins for Alex Ochoa; and Bip Roberts signed a \$2.3m, one-year contract with Detroit. (Reuters)

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